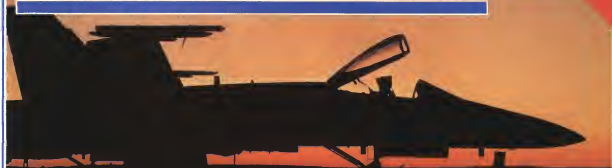


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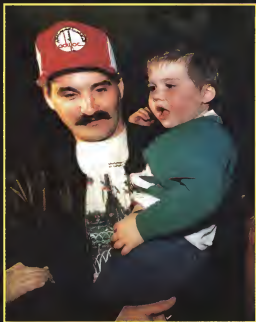
**TAKING  
THE CBC  
APART**



## The Hope And The Heartache

**Canada's Troops  
Settle In For A Lonely  
Winter In The Gulf**

**Hostages In Iraq  
Prepare For A Holiday  
Reunion At Home**



**Robert McKen, 51, Reunited With Son  
Trevor In Edmonton On Dec. 4**



ALL THE POWER  
ON EARTH  
CAN'T CHANGE  
DESTINY.

FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA'S

# The Godfather PART III

CHRISTMAS DAY

# Maclean's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE DECEMBER 17, 1990 VOL. 100 NO. 51

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## COVER

### THE HOPE AND THE HEARTACHE

*Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's announcement last week that he would release foreign hostages in Kuwait and Iraq, including 40 Canadian citizens, appeared to improve prospects for a diplomatic relation to the Persian Gulf crisis. But for the nearly 1,700 Canadian servicemen and women in the region, and their families at home, a devastating war remained a chilling possibility.* — 30



## SPECIAL REPORT

### CUTTING THE CBC

*The CBC's decision to close 11 television stations and eliminate dozens of local news and public affairs programs to make up a \$100-million budget shortfall, left viewers and network employees from coast to coast. Critics accused the Conservative government of dismantling a vital national institution.* — 10



## BUSINESS

### A COSTLY STANDOFF

*The latest round of international trade negotiations ended in Brussels without agreement in any of the 12 disputed areas. The failure raised the prospect of a trade war that could cost thousands of Canadian jobs and could mean higher prices for a wide range of goods.* — 40





## LETTERS

### TRUTH AND FAIR COMMENT

Your article on libel suits in Canada was an example of special pleading masquerading as a crusade for freedom of expression ("Thrilling editors," *Publishing*, Nov. 30). In an era in which all professionals are accountable before the courts, is it too much to ask that journalists answer the defamatory reporting? "Fair comment" has always been a defence in Canada, provided the reporter gets his facts right. Given the choice, it is doubtful that Canadians would wish to import U.S. standards of journalism, in which the character assassination of public officials has become a constitutionally protected form of entertainment.

William G. Horne,  
Toronto

Without denying Conrad Black and others their right to pursue justice, I have difficulty appreciating the severity of their cases in comparison with the many crime victims who recently learned that their cases may be dropped due to court backlog in Ontario ("A clogged system," *Justice*, Nov. 12). Perhaps I fail to understand the various court levels, but libel courts can be done out and court costs should take these costly cases out and give a second look to cases where real victims have been affected. Judges should deal with time, victims of sexual offenses, assault or drunk drivers may never heal.

Serge Morneau,  
Kirkland Lake, Ont.

### VICTORY IN VERMONT

Merri McDonald's good overview of the U.S. elections ("Fighting race," *Cover*, Nov. 19) did not make it clear the Vermont voters replaced Republican Peter Smith, who repudiated George Bush's policies, with Socialist Bernard Sanders, at that state's lone House seat. For this to happen in a state with a longtime conservative history shows that as astute Canadian elections may well turn to the democratic socialist NDP candidates.

Mortie R. Mass,  
Cheney, N.S.

As one who closely monitors the American political scene, I am "fighting mad" about your biased coverage of the recent U.S. elections. You would have readers believe that George Bush is a wounded and humiliated president. However, Bush is an outstanding and first-class leader. He is the most qualified recipient of the White House in American history. Your article reflected the liberal bias of the U.S. media, and was not in keeping with *Maclean's* reputation for objectivity.

Michael McCafferty,  
Regina



Black journalists are 'accountable'

### RUNAWAY STATISTICS

According to "Hell on the streets" (Canada, Nov. 18), our organization reported that 7,082 children under the age of 15 were believed to be living on the streets of Winnipeg in 2008. But our report made no such statement. That figure represents the total number

of children under 18 reported missing in that year—not the number of children living on the streets. For example, the same child may be reported as missing five times in a 12-month period—that constitutes five cases of missing children, not five children on the street. The way your article portrayed our report's figures led to an incorrect impression about the scope of Winnipeg's runaway problem and about our study.

Bruce Stulick,  
Executive Director,  
Social Planning Council of Winnipeg  
Winnipeg

### ENDORSENG 'PUERILE' COMEDY

You owe us \$7.50. That is how much we spent to see *The Tall Guy* on the strength of the falacious premise given it in your Nov. 19 issue ("Gaudy and gaudy," *Editor's*). Our money was wasted. The film was supposed to be a comedy, but it was puerile, with few laughs. It is so disappointing when a review leads us to expect much more than is delivered.

Alan and Dorothy Elton,  
North Vancouver, B.C.

Letters are edited and may be condensed. Writers should include name, address and telephone number. Mail enquiries should be referred to Editor. Mail box inquiries: *Maclean's*, Box 101, Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A7.

## PASSAGES

**DEB:** The man whose collection and fans called the "God of American music," composer Aaron Copland, 96, of pneumonia and respiratory failure, in hospital near his home in upstate New York. Among Copland's many compositions are two operas, eight movie scores and six ballets, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Appalachian Spring* (1944). He also published several books about music appreciation. Copland's ability to combine modernist rigor with folk traditions made his music accessible to a wide range of listeners. Active throughout his life as a promoter of new music and musicians, Copland continued to conduct into his 90s until his rest in his mid-90s.



**CANONIZED:** By Pope John Paul II, Mother Marguerite d'Arbouville, the founder, in 1737 of the Grey Nuns. She is the first Canadian-born saint. Sister Robert Lebel, head of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, called her the Mother Teresa of her day.

**ENDURED:** From hiding for the first time, to sign copies of his latest book in London, author Salman Rushdie, 43. In 1989, the Iranian extrajudge Muslim government ordered Rushdie's death because they believe that Rushdie blasphemed Islam.

**RELEASED:** From hospital in Bethesda, Md., Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa, 57, after a three-week stay. After doctors reversed dangerous skin from Bourassa's back, the premier underwent exploratory

surgery. Doctors determined that the cancer had not spread to other parts of his body. But Bourassa, whose stay was prolonged because of an intestinal blockage, will rest for several weeks.

**DEB:** Goldeneye actor and movie actress Jessi Ducasque, 62, in Montreal, after a long battle with diabetes. Ducasque played the undertaker in the 1971 Quebec movie *Mme. Chénier*. He also appeared in many early Quebec TV shows, including *The Placid Family*.

**DEB:** Movie and TV actor Bob Cunningham, 86, of Valley Lake in Los Angeles. Cunningham was the star of *The Bob Cunningham Show*, which ran on TV from 1955 until 1959. He also performed in more than 100 films, including *Dad N' Am Murder*.

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## LETTERS

### MARSH UNLIMITED

The proposed construction of the Davis Colliery headquarters in Oak Hammond Marsh is outrageous ("Where the geese go," *Restatement*, Nov. 18). I question the logo of an organization that encourages farmers to preserve their small potato ponds as waterfowl habitat, yet will send billboards to work in one of "the finest wetlands." No matter how the organization tries to rationalize its buildings as being "environmentally friendly," the trade-off for their presence is still destruction of habitat.

Lawrence E. Fink,  
Litchfield, Ala.

### BEEF VERSUS BISON

While appreciating the romance and appeal of free-ranging bison on Canadian north-western plains, I think it is unfortunate to place not only the national beef and wine industry, but also human health at risk ("A discouraging word," *Nature*, Nov. 12). However, I also believe that the government must have a more specific plan to test and quarantine healthy animals, killing only those that are infected. Is it not possible to isolate a small, healthy herd, while destroying the diseased animals?

Stuart Price,  
Keweenaw, Ont.

### REVOLTING TAXES

I was overwhelmed with anger at what I consider to be a great injustice to the Canadian taxpayer. The issue being that "Royal Canadian Mounted Police" of 2005 million, but collected \$34 million more in tax credits than it paid in income taxes ("Slipper fights back," *Business*, Nov. 12). Workers can no longer be expected to be the sole contributors to our tax and social services system. The deductible-charitable donations do not contribute equitable participation on the part of the wealthy.

Julie Swinton,  
Slippy Creek, Ont.

### THE PERSIAN GAP

I could not agree more with your editorial ("In search of answers," Nov. 19) that there is "a serious of unanswered questions" in regard to the present Gulf crisis. One important, unanswered question is, why on earth are "Coalitions about to fight—and perhaps do?" This is a perfect example of the complete lack of depth in this discussion, as the part of our national leaders and our mainstream media. The media must do more than report the activities of our leaders and pose this question as if it was not worth asking.

Adrienne McKee,  
Montreal



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MURKIN/DECEMBER 12, 1990 5

# OPENING NOTES

Guy Sprung springs a flop, Harrowsmith softens on its antinuclear policy and Jack Webster buttons up

## A NIGHTMARE PERFORMANCE

Theatre director Guy Sprung, whose link by the Toronto-based Canadian Stage Company earlier this year resulted in a national controversy, has been suffering harsh criticism in the Soviet Union. Last month at Moscow's Pushkin Theatre, Sprung directed a production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* that received scathing reviews in the local media. Reviewer Alexander Trofimov in the *Moscow Mirror* called the performance "a complete and devastating failure." He added: "I pity Canadians if they really want, laugh and despair in the way depicted by Sprung. Perhaps it was mockery of



Sprung: to cause for celebration

college amateur productions, but then again, for such productions the medium is made up of untried relatives and friends." Other critics appeared to agree. *Investive* correspondent Nigel Bretherton told *Midweek's*, "Our newspaper preferred to ignore this rather than publish a highly critical article." And *Provincer's* Alexis Phillips declared: "In my view, this play is a real flop. The performance was very bad." Sprung, who returned to Canada a few days after the play opened, expressed surprise at the bad reviews. "I was there opening night and we got three standing ovations," he said. Trofimov remarked, "At least the Pushkin Theatre received something substantial." Unfortunately, he was referring only to the fact that Sprung's Canadian supporters paid for upgrading the theatre's antiquated sound system.

## A politician's son is a good egg

Opposition Montreal lawyer Richard Holden, who recently won a seat in Quebec's National Assembly, has gained a reputation for his ability to attract attention largely as one of the few members of the strictly anglophone majority party. The latest epitome of Holden's 31-year-old son, Arthur, a full-time actor, indicates that he may be a chip off the older block. Arthur is appearing in a new television commercial for a Quebec fish-and-restaurant chain, St-Hubert, one of the most successful Quebecois food restaurants. Holden: "It is not exactly Shakespeare."



Holden: "It is not exactly Shakespeare."

He appears to be taking the family's crest as his stride. Although he said that he has not seen the commercial yet, he added: "My son worried me about it. I just told him, 'I do whatever I want, and guess you can, too.'" Words of a leader.

## A TOWN OUT OF CIRCULATION

Despite petitions and letters, officials of the south shore town of Lunenburg, N.S., failed to persuade the *Bank of Canada* to leave a picture of the historic town as the back of the \$100 bill. A new bill featuring a flock of Canada geese went into circulation Dec. 2. Said David DeFazio, the town's deputy mayor: "The joke in town is, how long will Nova Scotia's *Riverstone* be on the 10-cent piece?" But *Toronto's* *Star* columnist was not able to locate Lunenburg. Next year, a billboard advertising the seaside town will go up near the busy Gardiner Expressway.

## FAILING AN OBVIOUS CHALLENGE

Vancouver broadcaster Jack Webster, a pundit on CBC TV's *Front Page Challenge*, was struck unexpectedly for what could be the first time in his outspoken career. On Nov. 30 in Edmonton, Webster failed to guess the identity of the mystery guest on a pre-recorded episode. Another pundit, Alan Fetheringham, a columnist for Webster's, noted that the newlywed individual was Keith Spence, chairman of the newly created *Canada's Future* on Canada's Future. Webster, who is



Spence: "not Webster's monkey!"

Webster's advice



one of the 51 members of the team, reacted with stunned silence. But he recovered in time to risk if the team would make him look like a "Tory hack." Spence replied, "I don't care if it's the Vegetarian party or the Reform Deal party in point, we are not Webster's monkeys." For the second half of the show, which is scheduled to air on Jan. 1, producer Ray McCannell opened up the discussion to the audience. McCannell said that he is proud of his opponents' public forum. He added, "It was really a surprise to see that people were so eloquent and had so much to say." Voice of the future?

## LOOSE WORDS

As Ian Lampert is remembered not only as Ontario mayor of Toronto, but also as one of the country's most prolific malapropists. Lampert was known as "Merrill's Goldwyn Meyer" because he shared with movie mogul Samuel Goldwyn a propensity for uttering incoherent aphorisms in the tradition of 19th-century British playwright Richard Sheridan's immortal character, Mrs. Malaprop. Now, Canada's foremost collector of famous remarks, John Robert Colombo, has compiled a collection of what he calls "Lampertisms" in a book entitled *Questioning* from *Chairman Lampert*. Published by Pulp Press Books, it includes such gems as "Keep this up and we'll have a noxious triangle" and "I'm sure that remark." Lampert is also a master of mixed metaphors, as in "That's just taking a pole at the guy so you can see the whites of his eyes" and "Amalgamation was trying to force a shotgun wedding down the throats of our suburban neighborhoods." But his real strength lay in rendering anecdotal "Toronto talk" into witty but then again it never was.



Lampert: after noxious

Lampert, now 87, says that he is honored to have his sayings published. "It is a useful talent to be able to say funny things at outdoor moments," he said last week. "It throws your opponents off guard." He added, "I do it accidentally on purpose." From the mouths of politicians.

## The lady and the financier

There are no women on the board of Conrad Black's Hollinger Inc. Indeed, when a stockholder at the 1989 annual meeting asked Black about the lack of female directors, the financier said he had asked two women, both of whom turned him down, but that one of them had agreed to join the board after the stepped down from her "current position." There has been an official announcement, but because Black has always admired Margaret Thatcher, the *Iron Lady's* recent resignation has raised speculation that she may be the feminine touch that Black has been waiting for.

## AN ATOMIC ADVERTISING BOMB

Seemingly editorial policy at the environmentally oriented *Merrain* magazine has always opposed nuclear energy, most vivid readers expressed disagreement when they learned that *Merrain* might have accepted an ad for Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. (AECL). At first, the ad was going to come, "Canadian scientists have developed a way of safely disposing of the solid used fuel from nuclear generating stations." But the *Merrain* employees said they no one has yet established a safe way to dispose of such waste. In response, AECL has agreed to change the ad, which will run in the next issue, to read, "Canadian scientists believe they have found a way." But staffers say that the change provides cold comfort.

## A ONE-MAN NEWS CREW

Last week's massive fire outbreak stamped the nation. But the news that came out of the wreckage came in the shape of a man. Seemingly, a Toronto-based Montreal news reporter who for the past two months has been waging a lonely battle to send home television reports from Canada's fire scene in the Persian Gulf crisis spokesman

Brian Elman said that Seemingly doing what would normally take a crew of four reporters, cameramen, sound men and producers. Elman has no connection, Seemingly made his interview at the same time as he is conducting them. Said Elman, "His really calls attention to the tragedy." Certainly, the fact that he is there by himself is a testament to his journalistic constraints. Seemingly, who has always preferred to work alone, was not to be matched for company. But, after all, he is a very busy man.



Seemingly doing the work of four



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**PHILIPS**

## AN AMERICAN VIEW



# The resurrection of a decent man

BY FRED ARKIN

**S**ome Christmas. Our troops are in Saudi Arabia, waiting Amorgos and Vice-President Dan Quayle, who enjoys nothing better than a war he doesn't have to fight, is counseling against retreat. "There must be limits to our patience," says the wimp Quayle, watching the Vietnam extravaganza on television. Evidently, he's eager for the sequel.

Then there is the whole tedious Mideast fiasco—two teen-ideal imposters make millions by fapping their mouths to someone else's sound track until the act is abruptly revealed. More outrage is registered this close: George Bush's Persian Gulf policies, and the American music industry switches back to Graceland. Headlines follow. News conferences. Major intermissions in the great journals of the land. Gag in quickly with a yawn.

Meanwhile, the Israeli and glorious New York Daily News may cough after 71 years, gasoline costs as much as Dora Peigson, voters are so disgusted with their leaders that "Re-elect nobody" signs abound, academic sleazebags say that Martin Luther King is deserted paganism in graduate school, and, persistent as Henry Kissinger and equally insufferable, Sylvester Stallone is back to least as with Rocky 5. Perhaps now the nation understands why boxing must be outlawed.

In this holiday season of 1990, Eleanor Scrogge would surely be a star graduate of uncertainty training. Uncertainty abroad and bleak prospects at home have revealed the country's mood and turned it heavy as a ton of fratricide. Shoppers approach their task with the verve of police officers, looking for all the world as though they would rather behave with quills covering their heads. No gift-wrapped vegetable slices or digital piggy devices to use to counter a flask of such hellacious dinnertime. We are just going to have to wait this one out.

But, meantime, if America is searching for a small sign of hope—for a hint and tentative

Fred Arkin is a writer with *Newsday* in New York.

*Jimmy Carter believed that honesty was essential to good government. What a sap, Americans said. What a sap*

education that our soul is not yet entirely frosted, that among the byproducts of our vicious national grotesqueries there still may be found a sliver of good sense and *leg play*—then here is something to consider. Suddenly, we like Jimmy Carter.

Regarding the Carter case, not much review is necessary except to say that poor Jimmy left the White House looking like a house who had just been heated from the Georgia swamp. Land, that was a heinous sin. His attempt to rescue American hostages in Iran, ill-advised and poorly conceived, brought only embarrassment and heartache. He long never had lost the support of his constituents. George Bush is wrong! Forget it. Jimmy Carter was the guy we saw as a real working—a sort of Scotch school teacher with a silly smile, goofy accent and a lot of pomboos that he seemed to have coaxed with him from outer space.

Professional politicians said that he was hopelessly alienated from Washington power brokers and wildly naive in foreign relations. It is true that Carter lacked the shrewdness, say, of the aforementioned Kissinger, in that Carter had no capacity whatsoever for the sort of duplicitous Kissinger adroitness or misanthropic Henry could jolly shame, anything—

including capital banking and the squelching of dissent—so long as the enterprise was disengaged vital to the national interest. By contrast, Carter believed honesty to be an essential ingredient of good government. What a sap, Americans said to themselves. What a sap.

What chance did Carter have against Ronald Reagan? The California Democrat knew what folks wanted, all right, and had no higher ambition than to give them exactly that. Naturally, Reagan whipped Carter in the 1980 election and the American people, always ripe for the picking, bought themselves a corruptly draggish cowboy and put Jimmy Carter out to pasture. Get along, come, Jimmy, with all your talk about human rights and national discipline, with your enemies and literary references and fat, fuzzy graze, get along.

"One of the tragedies of Carter's presidency was that he may have declined that you can't be a serious moral figure and be an effective political leader," New York University law professor Bart Sussman said recently. "The people who have followed him have certainly learned that lesson."

So Jimmy Carter went away, and probably most Americans thought he was gone forever. But instead of donating his time-grown stacks and heading for the hills, instead of hanging around with persons and imposters deal-makers, instead of squandering every last buck out of the bankrupt credit, instead of surrendering to the lure of self-glorification, Jimmy Carter decided to do the plant a little good.

He built low-cost housing, modeled civil wars, modeled elections in Central America. He challenged young people to look beyond their own lives—to consider threatened crises of the world, not just of the shopping malls. He spoke of environmental, hunger and Third World development. Only rarely did Jimmy Carter talk about himself.

Accordingly, a new measurement of the man took place. Some historians said that Carter, now 64, was never, unforgotten as possible, given the breakdowns at Camp David and his advocacy of the Panama Canal Treaty. Still it appeared and long-range energy conservation plans. Others said that he was subverted by the liberal wing of his own party which named Carter a conservative. Still others said that Carter was a conservative. Even critics allow that, whatever Carter's shortcomings as chief executive, he has been not believe gay ever since. "Maybe I'm the right person to be a former president," says Jimmy Carter.

Jimmy Carter was extremely worried about the nation he once tried to lead. He feels sure George Bush is acting impossibly in the Middle East and rising terrible trouble. Unlike Dan Quayle and Henry Kissinger, goofy old Jimmy Carter, who, don't forget, is a savvy veteran, figures there must be a better way. "I think we ought to maintain our role as a strong, determined, powerful nation—not starting a war," he told a group of high-school students earlier this month. At one point, the young people chanted that Carter should run again. Not a chance, of course. But in this relentlessly holiday season, let's say God bless to the next generation of men.





CBC Toronto staff learn the details; (opposite) CBC Calgary reporter Don Kilbitt consoles colleague: 'permanent angst'

## CANADA/SPECIAL REPORT

# CUTTING THE CBC

**11 STATIONS AND  
160 PROGRAMS DIE  
IN A SEVERE  
CORPORATION  
BUDGET SQUEEZE**

**F**rom Goose Bay to Calgary, Canadian Broadcasting Corp. stations carried the news last week with a personal sense of urgency—and immediate worry. In Toronto, CBC news report that the network's senior executives had decided to slash programming in an attempt to close an expected \$110-million shortfall in its \$1.1-billion 1999-2000 budget budget caught Jeffrey Kellman, cohost of local CBC's current affairs program *Mission*, as he dressed for the Gemini Awards presentation. Hours later, Kellman learned that his own show was among those cancelled. In Goose Bay, Labrador, employees huddled in the dimly lit room of CBC president Gérard Villeneuve, speaking on a closed-circuit link from Ottawa, that their station would also close. Said reporter David Zelizer: "My last story was the obituary on the station." At the CBC's Calgary affiliate, word of that station's immediate shutdown attempted

local anchorman Bob Nicholson as he prepared to read the evening news to an estimated nightly audience of 68,000 viewers. Said a localer, "We did not even get to say goodbye."

With wrenching suddenness, employees and viewers of the CBC from coast to coast learned of sweeping cutbacks in programming that would drastically reduce the 54-year-old corporation's dominant role in Canadian broadcasting and news; its historic constitutional presence. In addition, the firing of the cutbacks—in the wake of sharp protests in Via Rail and the privatization of Air Canada—raised fears that the Conservative government was dismantling one of the most important ties that traditionally have bound Canadians together (page 10). One critic who raised that point last week was former broadcaster Keith Spicer, whom Prime Minister Brian Mulroney named in November to head a commission that would study the nation-



CBC Calgary reporter Don Kilbitt consoles colleague: 'permanent angst'

of anger and protest across the country. In Calgary, where the local station's 90-member staff has been reduced to two reporters, CBC viewers will now see local super-hour and late-night newscasts originating from Edmonton, the staffers' Alberta city. In Edmonton, said Calgary Mayor Al Duha: "Calgary deserves more from CBC than a watered-down newscast from Edmonton. This is a typical federal decision—to cut where it is least deserved." In Windsor, which sits on the border with the United States, the CBC's closure means that viewers now have no local Canadian television programming whatever. Instead, the city will be served by Ontario-wide super-hour and 11 p.m. news shows from Toronto.

In the Georgian Bay city of Sarnia, two residents had a special reason for bitterness over the closure of French language CBC's. Last summer, news editor Yves Gaudet and his wife, Anne-Marie Triss, a CBC reporter, accepted a transfer to Montreal from Ontario. Last Tuesday, they closed the purchase of a new house—just hours before learning that they, and 38 others, had lost their jobs. Said Gaudet: "I felt devastated, destroyed."

In fact, small, isolated cities are likely to feel the effects of the cutbacks most deeply. In Goose Bay, where the CBC station had served 35 relatively isolated communities across Labrador, most of which have no other television outlets, the CBC's transmission will now come via a satellite in St. John's, 725 km away. Said reporter Zelizer: "We were just barely covering Labrador as it was."

Still, some observers were quick to criticize the CBC management's strategy. Said Paul Richardson, a University of Toronto historian who speaks in media, for one: "On balance, the CBC was wise to get out of local and regional programming, and indeed should have gotten out of it a long time ago."

Added Richardson: "The same mistake of the CBC was to offer *Canada* a national service in two languages, one French and one English. And I think it could well emerge much stronger in the mid-1990s because it is focused on it."

**Notes:** But many observers suggested that the cutbacks coincided a deeply felt antipathy towards the public broadcaster on the part of the federal Tories—and raised doubts about whether the government seriously intended to preserve the CBC as a truly national broadcasting institution. Although Mulroney has also declined his personal support for the CBC, many observers doubt the depth of that commitment. Declared Peter Desbarras, a media analyst and the dean of the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of Western Ontario in London: "A lot of these guys at the very senior levels had the cut of, or would see, no need for it." He added: "I have no doubt

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## National Notes

### DEFENDING FEDERALISM

After weeks of stress, Charles Fournier, Quebec's public security and police affairs minister, spoke out in defence of federalism, saying that it had brought prosperity to Quebec. Ryan, a member of the Conservative on the Political and Constitutional Future of Canada, has not attended public hearings held by the commission, which has been accused by some federalists of having a pre-conceived bias.

### QST FILIBUSTER

In the Senate, Liberal senators continue of filibustering during a debate on the Goods and Services Tax (GST). Senators can speak now on the bill with no time limit—and what debate was suspended for the weekend. Senator Philippe Gauthier had spoken for 31 hours. The Liberal hope to end the filibuster just the scheduled Jan. 1 implementation date. But Revenue Minister Olof Johen vowed that the cur will go ahead as planned.

### CHALLENGE DENIED

An Ontario court judge dismissed a constitutional challenge brought by Gough lawyer T. Sher Singh against Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's recent appointments of eight additional senators. Singh said that he will appeal.

### A CALL FOR ACTION

On the first anniversary of Brian Mulroney's massacre of 14 female engineering students at the University of Montreal, a coalition of 23 women's groups called for Ottawa to establish a royal commission on violence against women.

### FIGHTING RECESS

After a meeting with prominent NDP leaders, federal party leader Audrey McLaughlin unveiled a five-point party program to lead Canada out of recession. McLaughlin said that Ottawa should lower the interest rate to 10 per cent, scrap the car and embark on a massive environmental campaign. As well, she said that the government should engage in multi-lateral trade negotiations and increase the social safety net. The NDP is currently leading the Liberals and Tories in opinion polls.

### A NEW PRESCRIPTION

Quebec Health Minister Marie-Yvonne Gauthier announced changes to that province's health care system designed to curb abuses and recover \$100 million a year from patients. The reforms, to come into effect next year, would also require doctors to work in rural areas before they are licensed, and allow patients to refuse to be kept alive by artificial means.

## OF UNDERMINING NATIONAL UNITY

some of them were privately delighted by what has happened."

Certainly, the announced outcasts flew in the face of Vellosio's optimism when the former senior Treasury Board official was appointed CBC president in 1989. Then, Vellosio said that one of his strengths would be his ability to defend the corporation's interests through his knowledge of the corridors of power in Ottawa. Instead, Vellosio was clearly anxious to protect the CBC from the Tories' determination to impose deep budget cuts.

At the same time, he has been Vellosio's Ministry also appointed longtime broadcaster Patrick Watson as CBC chairman-designate, saying that Watson's presence would drive the corporation to "new heights of accomplishment." But in the face of last week's cuts, Watson was obliged to acknowledge that the CBC had adopted "the least uncomfortable" strategy (TVAs). Added Watson: "I would rather protect our core programs than have no CBC at all."

Finally, the corporation was hard-pressed. Of the \$104 million that Vellosio said that the CBC needs to save in order to balance its 1991 budget, \$30 million represents an expected shortfall in advertising because of the recession. Other holes, ranging from several years of declining government subsidies to a decrease in corporate contributions to the CBC employees' pension fund, account for the rest. Vellosio said that he had warned the govern-

ment about the scale of the cuts that would follow if it refused to increase funding. But the CBC president refused to say whether he had formally requested increased funding, and he brushed aside questions from reporters as to whether he had offered his resignation in protest. A senior CBC official later told Maclean's that it was "highly unlikely."

**Enthralled:** In fact, Vellosio and other CBC officials acknowledge that more changes, and still further cutbacks, likely lie ahead for the national corporation. As early as 1990-1991, Vellosio said, the CBC faced the possibility of further \$50-million shortfalls, which would inevitably necessitate another sweeping round of cuts. As well, BSE C-40, the letter to the

Broadcast Act, is now in the Senate after the House of Commons passed it last week. In addition to covering the new genres of channels, which Watson will fill, the bill will increase the CBC's traditional mandate to "promote national unity." Instead, the bill instructs the CBC to "contribute to shared national consciousness and identity."

For his part, Communications Minister Marcel Masse stated that despite the cuts, the CBC will still carry "programs of better quality than under the Liberal government." But despite that assurance, the measures seemed certain to deepen public resentment towards the Tories, whose support has already dropped to a record-low 14 per cent in the polls. In Calgary, Dr. Roberto Valenzia, a dentist and regular CBC viewer, said that the cutbacks were another sign that the government is "cutting everything that makes this country different from the United States." Mayor Maurizio Giuliano of Moose said that the closure of the local station is likely to heighten pro-secessionist sentiment in his town. De-changed Gaudreau: "We're really talking about the importance of national unity. It seems strange that he is cutting parts of the country off."

For Gaudreau and for thousands of other affected Canadians, the loss of a part of their shared past raised fresh uncertainties for a divided future.

ANTHONY WILSON SMITH  
with GLEN ALLEN in Ottawa,  
JOHN FORTUNE in Calgary,  
GARY RUSSELL in Montreal, and  
correspondents' reports



Vellosio (left) and Watson: a storm of public protest

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"And the network itself continues to operate."

But while last week's cuts clearly set a sharp tone for the future, Watson's own position remains in limbo. The new broadcasting act would separate the role of public-broadcasters from that of producers for the first time. But it still must pass the Senate, which continues to be embroiled in the filibuster over the act. Up until now, Watson, a special consultant to Vellosio, has been told not to say anything to the board. Despite speculation that he had been losing patience with his offstage role, Watson says that he intends to take up his commission—"instructing the law makers." Said Watson: "I have every intention of staying. You can't abandon a ship when it is taking to badly."

In fact, Watson, shocked from his role as

GLEN ALLEN in Ottawa

### 'YOU CAN'T ABANDON A SHIP'

Until a new broadcast Act, passed by the House of Commons last week, cleared the Senate and moves rapid passage, he is still legally only an adviser to CBC president Gerard Vellosio. But following massive surgery to public television broadcasting last week, CBC chairman-designate Patrick Watson made it clear that he agreed with the cuts that had been made. "I feel bad," Watson told Maclean's. "Some comments have been made. But then it is a dreadful loss. But," added the 60-year-old Watson, "I feel like I've said all that I can say other possible [cut-cutting] strategies. We got the best profile of cuts we could." In spite of that somber assurance, Watson came under considerable fire from opposition critics for his support of the cuts. And Liberal MP Sheila Fungtane, "It was an awkward and upset about it, why didn't he resign?"

In fact, Watson, shocked from his role as



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# ASSESSING THE SPOILS

## THE PRIVATE STATIONS STAND TO GAIN

Owners of private television stations serving 10 cities across Canada found themselves racing against each other last week to provide news coverage of local fires and snowstorms. To confirm with CBC president Gilbert Veilleux's plan to slash \$108 million from the corporation's budget, local CBC stations in communities from Corner Brook, MB, to Calgary cancelled what, for most, are their last remaining locally produced shows—their supper-hour and late-night local newscasts. Private local-content executives maintained, however, that Veilleux's cuts likely will produce no huge ratings or profit voids. And many of the private broadcasters repeated their long-standing complaint: about government-subsidized competition. Said Adrian Poulin, president of Montreal-based CTV Inc., which owns the nine-station Quebec network Quatre Seasons: "Why is the government still paying the CBC \$1 billion in subsidies, if it is doing the same thing as the private networks?"

Creative Poulin's company is among those that stand to gain some relief from the CBC shutdown. Veilleux halted local production at 10 private stations—CFTV in Rimouski, CFTV in Sept-Isles and CMTV in Miramichi—that compete directly with Poulin's private network. Still, he and other executives predict little noticeable improvement in earnings as advertisers continue to cut back on spending during the current recession. Adds Dennis Kavanagh, a media analyst with the Toronto-based investment dealer Deacon Ross: "We may also have a crunch with one of the private networks. Assuming that takes the weight off a very helpful ad resource."

The private broadcasters are being squeezed just as hard as the CBC by the current downturn. The network's only national con-

tribution, the privately owned CTV network, last week declined to disclose its earnings for its fiscal year that ended on Aug. 30. But CTV chief financial officer Tom Poole acknowledges that the results were worse than the \$7.4-million profit it posted in 1988-1989—a result that was itself down sharply from a \$23.8-



CTV TV's Harbut: no loss in eliminating CBC local news reports

million profit the year before. In Quebec, CFTV Inc. lost \$15.9 million in 1989-1990, compared with a \$3.2-million profit in 1988-1989. Toronto-based Baton Broadcasting Inc., which owns 41 television stations in Saskatchewan and Ontario, including CFTV-TV in Toronto, one of the country's largest, suffered an 88-per-cent decline in profits to \$5.1 million. Says Baton president Douglas Bassett: "Those are hard times for everyone."

Even though the CBC is eliminating local

production at 51 stations in the 10 communities—closing both its French- and English-language stations in Toronto—local owners say that it will be difficult to gain at the network's expense because the stations will continue to transmit the CBC's national programming. Says Baton executive vice-president Joseph Garwood: "The competition is not being lessened. All it means is that for a couple of hours in their daily schedule, they don't have a local aspect to it."

Still, many of the CBC's competitors are planning to augment their local news coverage as well. In two new ventures and advertisers from the network. In Windsor, Ont., the CBC last week shut down production at CFTV, leaving the city of 260,000 without any local newscast. But Alan Brooks, director of programming for CMO in Kitchener, Ont., a CTV affiliate 285 km to the east, says that CMO is considering opening a sister station in Windsor to fill the vacuum. In Calgary, Sharon Proulx, president of CTV-affiliate CFTV, says that he could raise advertising rates by 30 per cent if he could win just half of the 68,000 viewers who formerly watched the local CBC's supper-hour newscast.

But private broadcast executives also decry the pressure by cultural groups that Veilleux's cuts will deprive the 10 cities of crucial local news coverage. In Toronto, Stephen Harbut, news director at independently owned CFTV, says that Veilleux's decision to shut down local production at CFTV makes sense. Says Harbut: "In terms of local news, a five engine is a five engine. In Toronto, I don't think the national drama is better served by having six or seven reporters chasing the same five engines."

Indeed, many private broadcasters say that they hope the CBC's financial difficulties will force it to make further cuts. Poulin, for one, says that when CTV Inc. began broadcasting in 1962, it was the only source of programming for most Canadians. But now, he argues, the CBC uses much of its budget to bid up the cost of game shows, sports and U.S. programming that could be longed by private networks. Adds Poulin: "Why are they paying \$140 million for *Naked Night in Canada*?" For his part, Bassett adds that, despite profits over last week's cuts, "the people of Canada just are not prepared to pay for more costly programming with higher taxes."

Conceding the CBC's management now also shows that view,

JOHN DAILY with PAUL KAVANAGH in Toronto

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# FADE TO BLACK

## THE CBC CANCELS LOCAL AND REGIONAL SHOWS

For James King, it was like losing a close friend last week, as the 57-year-old Newfoundland fisherman grieved over the CBC's decision to cut his favorite television program, *Land and Sea*. King told *Maclean's* that he had faithfully watched the weekly, half-hour public affairs program since it first aired in 1966. "It was a way of keeping in touch with what was going on all over the island," said King, a fisherman for 35 years. "It will be missed." And as he dilly-daddied his cats in his fishing shed in Quidi Vidi Village, just outside of St. John's, King added that the show helped to unify the island's formerly independent communities. About 100,000 Newfoundlanders—60 per cent of the province's viewing audience—regularly tuned in on Monday nights to watch the St. John's-produced show, which predominantly featured documentaries about Atlantic fisheries. It was also rebroadcast on the Newfoundland network *Noted Ron Crocker*, a Newfoundland who now works in Toronto as the CBC's director of regional news and current affairs. "Every fisherman watched *Land and Sea*."

But *Land and Sea* was only one of about 160 local and regional television programs that last week fell victim to the CBC's latest budget squeeze. The shows included everything from special coverage of Santa Claus parades and annual charity telethons to award-winning, investigative public affairs shows. Still, almost all of the cancelled programs had at least one thing in common: they usually focused on events and issues of significance that they served the CBC. And in that light, *Land and Sea* was not alone. *Noted Ron Crocker* and *Land and Sea* were not alone as Canadians everywhere mourned the loss of local programs.

**King:** For critics who denounced the CBC's cuts as yet another example of Central Canada's disregard of the hinterlands, last week provided evidence that the centre had also not been spared. *Maclean's*, a weekly, half-hour current affairs program co-hosted by Jeffrey Kalish and Paula Lewis, also fell victim to the CBC axe. Since its inception in 1984, the Monday-night show had developed a healthy following, with a regular audience of about 347,000. And Jay Crayth, *Maclean's* executive produc-



Kalish (left) and Lewis: an award-winning show falls

er, added that it was particularly ironic that the program was cancelled at a time when many of its documentary segments—including an investigation into why a new drug for AIDS sufferers sold in the Caribbean was not available in Canada—had been rebroadcast on network shows including *The Journal*, *Midnight Country*, *Country O'Clock*, a former producer at *The Journal* who left three years ago to head *Newsline*, and that the show's success—including eight nominations for Gemini, the top award in Canadian broadcasting—resulted from the fact that "nobody across the country has been doing these kinds of stories."

At the same time, French Canada also felt the sting of the cutbacks. The closure of the CBC station in Moncton, Que., 350 km northeast of Quebec City, meant the elimination of locally produced programs such as the game show *Gens de bien* and the current affairs program *Gens d'ici*. St. Mary's Major Maurice Gauthier said: "People here feel shocked, rejected and humiliated by the decision. It's so cruel."

French-speaking viewers in Toronto, meanwhile, were left with no locally produced CBC programming by the closure of that city's CBFT.

In other cases, promising programs were cut before they had a chance to establish themselves. Crocker, for one, noted that the CBC had "identified a very great need, especially in British Columbia" for a regular program on the environment. As a result, this past summer Vancouver producers launched *Down to Earth*, a weekly program that focused on environmental issues ranging from backyard composting to the effects of pollution on killer whales in the Georgia Strait.

**Loss:** According to Crocker, the program, which replaced the current affairs program *People Report*, was still in its "formative, experimental stage" when it was cancelled last week—after broadcasting 21 shows. Sted Carberry Stewart, the Greenpeace representative in Vancouver: "We did not necessarily always agree with the conclusions drawn by the show's various guests, but it certainly encouraged dialogue." Now, with *Down to Earth* off the air, she added that she was concerned about "the possibility of a decline in coverage of local, community issues, which are very important for the environmental movement."

In other parts of the country the programs cuts could also mean more than just the loss of a source of entertainment or information. This fact loomed large at St. John's Hospital, for one, dependent on an annual CBC-produced June telethon for 90 per cent of its independent fund-raising for research and new equipment. One of its main fund-raisers across the country, the Halifax telethon has raised \$24 million since taking to the airwaves in 1984. Last week, though, the telethon was cut, leaving hospital organizers scrambling for a way to meet their \$5.6-million fundraising goal for 1991. Hospital head Bernard Lacombe said that he still hoped to convince the CBC to build next year's telethon. If not, he added "it would be a devastating loss for the hospital." Indeed, "loss" was a word that sounded from coast to coast last week as Canadians were left to assess the fallout of the CBC cutbacks.

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# CBC BACK TALK

## CANADIANS RESPOND TO THE CUTS

The CBC cuts have sparked vigorous debate across the country. Most of the staffs of the network's provincial stations have reacted positively to the cuts.

### At home, former CBC president

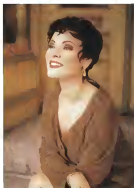
What is wrong about this whole thing is what caused it in the first place, namely the decision of the government to consistently underfund the CBC—the one national institution that takes to Canadians about Canada every day, that creates a forum for Canadians and that helps us to understand one another. We have a country that is disoriented on the economic front with the recession, on the constitutional front after the Meech Lake disaster, on the international front with the Gulf crisis. And at all the times that Canadians need the CBC, that helps the country together, it is cut. At all the moments that it should preserve and support, the most important is the CBC, and they cut away at it. **W.P. Kinoshita**, *Winnipeg, B.C., author* I cannot imagine why everyone is whining. We are in a situation where every government department should be making cuts twice as deep as they are making them. It is a very strange situation, because everyone is complaining that the national debt is not outrageous. What I do think is that the CBC and all government departments should put a list on administration costs. The CBC is top-heavy with administration, and it would not have to make production cuts in that case.

**Andrew MacNeil**, *Atlantic playwright and author*

There are close to a million francophones living in Ontario, and they will be hurt deeply by the closing of Toronto's French-language station. Newbury will rely on Montreal for information, even though they have different values, concerns and rights than francophones in Quebec. There will be a vacuum in the coverage of the Radio-Canada station in Montreal, the Académie québécoise will suffer the same lack of service. There should have been a better way to save money. There are so many people—their people who do nothing—working at the CBC. I know some of them personally.

**Karen Kain**, *principal dancer with the National Ballet of Canada in Toronto*

I am dismayed. In the arts community, this is the second shock we have received in a short period of time, after the Toronto Ballet Opera House closure. I believe that the cuts are absolutely valuable to all of us at a time when the country is having a hard time staying together, it seems the worst possible move. I know the [government] had no choice. Selfishly, I think



Kain: 'The CBC is incredibly valuable to all of us.'

about the National Ballet when we lose it. We go to all these places, and those local stations let people know we are in town. All the touring shows that go across the country need that publicity.

**Perley Meakin**, *Port Hope, Ont., author*

This is just part and parcel of the treacherous policies of the Mulroney government to destroy the country. He knows full well that he will not be re-elected, so he will do as much damage to Canada as he can before he finally is forced out. It has nothing to do with hard times at all. This is deliberate policy. The Conservatives want to get rid of the CBC because it is a voice that doesn't necessarily follow the established line. They want to silence the voice of independent thought.

**Reynold Frewin**, *VP of Manitoba, from 1980 to 1988, now political science professor at the University of Windsor in Ontario* Port we had Via Rail, then Air Canada, now the CBC—national institutions that have bonded this

country together have been torn apart. And it is very evident in Windsor, where there is no Canadian alternative to the CBC, and with its proximity to Detroit and all the U.S. television. So it is a blatant example of how we are being driven into the north-south trap.

**Arthur van Niek**, *Calgary-based scientist*

As someone who grew up in a relatively remote part of Alberta, I would never have become a writer had it not been for the CBC. It was my main source of information. It introduced me to the world beyond the small confines of where I was living. And it continues to be an important contact, especially in the North. I think that the cuts that have been imposed on the CBC and the Canada Council are a way of silencing an essentially Canadian voice.

**Stephen Lewis**, *former Canadian ambassador to the United Nations*

The cuts are a disaster for public broadcasting and for the country. They are part of the vast single-minded assault on the values and institutions of Canada in post-Second World War history, courtesy of the right and the government. They seem determined to destroy Canada before the next election. If there was any way to impact the government before then, I wish we would. I blame the government mostly, even though the CBC has done this in loyal service of the government. I wish Patrick Wilson had resigned; it would have been a statement to Canadians.

**David Adams Richards**, *Salt Lake, N.B., author*

The choice of cuts reflects the active dominance of the active dominance of the news in regional service of Via Rail, at the surface. It is a reflection of the poor linkage between the centre and the regions, and it will become even more discredited in the future. I do not think that the position of the CBC, although the centre and government are all that different. If a Liberal or any government had lasted during the CBC, I am sure the cuts would have been made the same way. It is a process of erasing the regions.

**W.D. Mitchell**, *Calgary-based author*

This government wants to change the line of that old hymn from "Blessed be the one that leads" to "Canada be the one that leads." It does not like freedom of speech. Since Diefenbaker, the Conservative party has been out to get the CBC. These savage cuts are the culmination of a long-term attack for the purpose of debilitating the voice of the people. It is no God damned. This is another example of the will of the people becoming a myth. □

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Another working day in Toronto: Otto was 69 and had a life expectancy of 45

## A 'reasonable limit'

### The top court upholds mandatory retirement

John Connell says that he simply wants to work. In 1973, at 32, the retired eye major began an administrative job as \$12,000-a-year administrator at the University of Toronto (UoT). A widower and father of two young daughters, Connell often worked weekends without pay. In September, 1985—two months before university policy would require him to retire at age 65—Connell asked his employer to extend his contract. The university refused. Connell sued and, after losing an initial court decision, eventually won his case before the provincial Appeal Court. Then, lawyers for the appeal that went to the Supreme Court of Canada. "Ridiculous against the system is not the way I was brought up," says Connell, now 70. "But I am leaving and I am happy." At his job, I think I should have the choice. "But possibly all will vanish last week, however, when the Supreme Court finally ruled on this appeal. Its decision, according to the Charter of Rights, justified because the practice benefits society as well as the majority of employees.

The landmark ruling settled the question for Connell as well as for the 24 other individuals and employee associations whose three additional appeals of their enforced retirement—from a Vancouver hospital and universities in Saskatchewan and Ontario—the high court also dismissed. But the decision left up for a patchwork of mandatory retirement legislation and practice that varies from province to province.

And some experts predicted that pressure will continue to mount on legislators to relax mandatory retirement rules despite the Court's decision in favor of their social benefits. For one thing, demographers note that as Canadians grow longer, healthier lives, pension plans are becoming increasingly strained, raising the prospect that many older citizens may be obliged to continue working in order to preserve their assets. Observed Vancouver lawyer Peter Galt, "The ruling shifts the emphasis from lawyers in the courtroom to lobbyists in political offices." Added Galt, who argued against mandatory retirement before the Supreme Court, "In 20 years, we may well wonder what the fight was all about."

In brief, the Court's ruling will permit employers and collective organizations to continue requiring workers to retire at a specific age when the practice is permitted by provincial laws. On the other hand, legislation in force in Quebec and some other provinces is too lax to ensure mandatory retirement was left untouched by the Court's decision. In Quebec, legislation passed in 1983 allows workers to collect reduced

pension at 60—or to work until 70 for higher benefits. In New Brunswick, mandatory retirement must occur at age 65, although provincial policy allows civil servants and people who do not have company pension plans to continue working past that age. But in Manitoba, a 1970 Human Rights Code, which effectively banned mandatory retirement, remains in force following last week's decision.

But two dissenters among the seven members of the Supreme Court—both women—indicated how diverse the issue of retirement has become. All seven justices did agree that mandatory retirement fundamentally violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. But the five majority justices also ruled that the violation was a "reasonable limit" on individual rights, as envisaged in the Constitution. They argued that abolishing mandatory retirement would encourage employers to hire less productive older workers—rather than invest their assets—while reducing the prospects of younger workers for advancement. Concluded Justice Gérard La Forest, "In taking with mandatory retirement, we are affecting an undeniably clearly intended with other ongoing rules of the workplace."

But Justices Claire L'Heureux-Dubé and Bertha Wilson—who last month announced her own voluntary retirement on Jan. 4 at age 67, eight years before the Court's mandatory retirement age of 75—expressed the majority's argument. Both justices said that many Canadians face economic hardship if they are required to stop working solely because of age. Wilson noted that many women, immigrants and unskilled workers cannot rely on adequate pensions. "This group represents the most vulnerable employees," Wilson wrote in her dissenting judgment. "They are the ones who, if forced to retire at age 65, will be left back at the legislative protection." Added L'Heureux-Dubé, "The adverse effects of mandatory retirement are most patently felt by the poor."

Currently, employer support for mandatory retirement in Canada is not eager to work beyond 65. For her part, Jean Waddell, president of One Voice, a Canadian seniors network, says that most people simply stop working at the daily grind. "The great majority of people are ready to quit at 65. They've had en-

ough of backbreaking jobs and they've had enough." Indeed, La Forest noted in his decision that "estimates of workers who would voluntarily elect to work beyond the age of 65 vary from 9.1 to 14.6 per cent of the labor force, or 3.447 to 11,288 persons in the year 2000." Still, demographers say that estimates towards retirement will almost certainly change in the decades ahead, when seniors are expected to make up almost one-third of Canada's population. People over the age of 65, at present only 13.6 per cent of the Canadian population (3.6 million people), are projected to form 27 per cent of the country's projected population of 34 million in 45 years time (an estimated 16 million senior citizens). And last month, the federal finance department reported that pressure to improve pensions for the growing number of aging Canadians will subside the Canada Pension Plan even sooner—by the year 2021, just 22 years from now—unless contributions from workers across significantly. As a result, many Canadians may have no retirement choice at the time but to work until the age of 70 or even 75.

Demographers trace the problem to the surge in Canada's population that occurred after the Second World War. In fact, the baby-boom generation born between 1947 and 1966 strained society's assets at almost every stage of its development. During the 1960s, swelling enrolments left many schools overcrowded. Then, in the late 1970s, youth unemployment soared to the same proportions encountered the job market. By 2012, when the oldest boomers turn 65, social safety nets will be in danger of breaking as the first members of the pioneer generation enter retirement.

But seniors who will make up such a large part of society in 45 years time will be very different from the identity of the past. Professor Allan Gregg, co-author of *The Big Picture*, an atlas of Canadian society drawn from surveys conducted for *Maclean's* by his Decima Research group, notes, "Not only will there be more old people, but there will be a new type of old person. You will be expected to remain young and vital and independent throughout your entire aging period."

Such trends may eventually sweep the notion of mandatory retirement into the dustbin of outdated policies. Observed social commentator John Kish, author of *The Day After Tomorrow*, "In 30 years, people will be getting healthier. They'll walk their way. They can do as well at age 65 as when they were 55." For his part, Vancouver's Connell recalls that one Senate committee, reporting on a study of the subject, concluded 19th century German Chancellor Otto von Bismarck was establishing the first mandatory retirement age at 65, in tandem with a public pension plan, in the 1880s. At the time, the life expectancy in Germany was 45 years. Now that most people live long enough to enjoy retirement, however, some, apparently, would prefer to be retired.

**E. KAYE FELDSON and KANCY WOOD** are Co-authors with PAUL KALUDA in Toronto and KRISTIAN GUNDELIN in Montreal.

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Spicer (left) and Fraser: obscured by a new commission and partisan politics

## In search of Canada

*The Citizens' Forum faces a critical task*

They met behind closed doors in a Winnipeg hotel last week—with a clear appreciation of the delicate task ahead of them. For the members of the Citizens' Forum on Canada's Future, the agenda for last week's meeting required them to design a strategy for revealing Canadians on the country's future and for diffusing those views into a report by July 1, 1991. But with the nation still reeling from the June failure of the Meech Lake constitutional accord, the commissioners also had to deal with an even more critical task: how to ensure the legitimacy that has surrounded the forum since Prime Minister Brian Mulroney announced its creation on Nov. 3. Indeed, some critics claim that Mulroney created the forum simply to avoid renewed allegations that Canada were not being consulted on the Constitution—and that Ottawa was avoiding difficult action. Detractors have also attacked it because of chairman Keith Spicer's initial ambiguity about whether it would have hearings in Quebec, where the Bédard-Campese commission on the province's future is currently uncovering almost overwhelmingly secessionist sentiments.

For Spicer, the Winnipeg meeting was a renewed success. The commissioners agreed on a process for enabling Canadians who want to express views on the country's future to do so. And Spicer affirmed that the 11 one-day forums will hold hearings in Quebec. But those

advances were largely obscured by the increasingly angry exchanges an national unity table place at other levels of the debate over the fragile state of the nation.

In Montreal, Mulroney announced the establishment of a second consultative body—a joint Senate-Commons commission to examine new constitutional amending formulae. But he accompanied that with a sharp political attack on Liberal Leader Jean Charest. And in Winnipeg, just four blocks away from the Spicer commission discussions, a meeting of provincial finance ministers provided a stark display of the nation's divisions: the next day Quebec Finance Minister Gérard Lévesque remained empty, a reminder of that province's decision after the Meech Lake failure to boycott such gatherings.

With the current federal system undergoing unprecedented strain, the commissioners on the Citizens' Forum are privately setting modest goals for themselves. First one, who requested anonymity: "Given the hostility not shown just getting people to listen with respect to the views of other Canadians would be a success." To accomplish that, the commissioners agreed last week on just how the forum will proceed. Spicer said that they had rejected the traditional approach of holding formal hearings. Instead, the commissioners will dispatch in small groups to host discussions among Canadians in their homes, businesses and other

settings. Staff commissioner Tola (Tola) Fraser: "After a session of frustration and rage, a lot of Canadians are willing to talk seriously about where the ball we go from here."

More specific details about the times and locations of meetings will be released when the forum reconvenes in Saint John, N.B., on Jan. 3. But the commissioners agreed that one of their most critical challenges is to establish a credibility that a lot is at stake. The commission lost much of its initial momentum when Spicer appeared uncertain if the forum would be active in Quebec. In a result, Meech Lake opponents and Manitoba Liberal Leader Sharon Carstairs, the one, labelled the forum "a fiasco." But in Winnipeg, the commissioners said that they would meet with Quebecers on the same basis as other Canadians. Said Quebec City publisher and commissioner Robert Normand: "We will be active everywhere in Canada starting in January."

Meanwhile, in Montreal on Dec. 2, Mulroney made a long-expected announcement of a second federal commission. The 17-member traveling committee will be made up of senators and MPs, and it will make proposals on modifying the constitutional amending formula. In particular, the committee will examine the necessity of the three-year period for ratifying amendments, as well as the controversial unanimity provision that gives such provisions a veto over changes to federal institutions. Mulroney used the occasion to extol the benefits of federalism to Quebecers. But the Prime Minister also denounced Charest and other opponents of Meech Lake, claiming that "through their duplicity, they have lost all moral authority to speak to Quebecers about renewed federalism."

Mulroney again attacked Charest in the *Canadian* the next day, accusing him of "bailing under his pool table in Ottawa" during the attempts to salvage the Meech Lake accord in June. Charest replied that the Prime Minister was "blaming everybody but himself" for the country's constitutional problems. But Mulroney's decision to inject partisan attacks into the sensitive area of national unity unsettled even some of his defenders. Said one Quebec Tory MP, who asked not be named: "Charlton is not the enemy. The Bloc Québécois is the real threat."

In that sour and divisive atmosphere, the forum's commissioners prepared for their grueling six-month odyssey across the country. And some of them acknowledged that they finally prepare their report, their findings may be surprising. "We are not the 'loyal' commission," said commissioner Carole Cadogan. "We may feel that unity may not necessarily be the answer." It was a sobering reminder that as even more wrenching debate may be ahead.

BRUCE WALLACE in Winnipeg



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# THE PRICE OF UNIFICATION

**AFTER GERMANY'S FIRST ELECTIONS SINCE 1932 AS A SINGLE NATION, THE DIFFICULT TASK LIES AHEAD**

**T**he Germans call it *Gewaltigkeit*, a sense of awe and cordiality. And after last week's elections, they first as a unified nation since 1932, they had good reason to feel that way. Behind them lay the excitement and upheaval of a year in which they rushed headlong from East-West division to a historic reunification. Ahead lay the national glow of the birthday season. And finally in change of national affairs was 60-year-old Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the oldest architect of Germany's newly won unity and an easy winner in the Dec. 5 elections. But for all the good feelings, chill breezes blew around Bonn, the capital. As one Berlin newspaper, "Tagesspiegel" put it, "The father of German unity must now raise the child." And for the first few years of its life, at least, the child seemed likely to prove troublesome.



Lafontaine: worst defeat

The problems are more likely to be economic than political. In contrast to the prosperous western half of the country, the five *Länder*, or states, of the eastern half are economically devastated after 45 years of hard-line Communism rule. Most analysts estimate that their recovery will cost the central government about \$25 billion a year for the foreseeable future. And although Kohl has insisted that he will not impose new taxes, many financial

experts say that he may soon have to reverse that position.

In fact, in the last two weeks of the election campaign, Kohl conceded that he might have to introduce what he called "austerity laws," taxes earmarked for special projects. He said that he would allocate them only to improving the environment, not to unification costs. But many economists maintained that Kohl would soon have to impose straightforward tax increases. Some of them also forecast that, to raise revenues, Bonn would be forced to sell off state enterprises, including its consumer goods monopoly, Telefunken, and the national airline, Lufthansa. And Karl Otto Poehl, the president of Germany's central bank, said that the rising national deficit, currently totaling \$156 billion, was threatening to undermine the highly-lying *deutsche mark*.

Those grim forecasts were especially unwelcome for the former Soviet bloc countries, and the former Union state, which have been asking for a massive infusion of German aid. But then they were told that the new government would be the one to pay for the massive East German unemployment, the national deficit, and the national airline, Lufthansa. And Karl Otto Poehl, the president of Germany's central bank, said that the rising national deficit, currently totaling \$156 billion, was threatening to undermine the highly-lying *deutsche mark*.

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peaks some 10 percent next year. Even when fully employed, workers in the five eastern states of Germany earn only 25 to 40 per cent of average wages in the western states. And although the easterners currently benefit from subsidies for rent and power, the Bonn government has said that it intends to remove progressively those supports starting on New Year's Day.

Still, despite the harsh economic outlook, the



Kohl and wife, Hannelore: avoid good feelings, chill breezes blew around Bonn

six-foot, four-inch, 260-lb. Kohl projected a rugged confidence when the election results became known. "It's a day of joy," he told workers of his conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU), which is allied with the smaller Christian Socialist Union (CSU). "Tomorrow we party and enjoy ourselves, tonight we go back to work." The first aim on that agenda was to forge a new government with the aid of the easterners in the previously conservative coalition, the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP). There were accurate signs that the bargaining would be tough. The FDP increased its share of the total vote to 11 per cent from 9.1 per cent in 1987. And it displaced a new seat in the Bundestag, the national parliament, from the CDU, whose own share of the poll had fallen slightly, to 43.8 per cent from 44.3 per cent. Overall, the final standings in the 656-seat parliament were CDU-CDU, 313 seats; Social Democrats, 229 seats; Greens, 8 seats.

Let by widely respected Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Free Democrats were demanding special tax concessions for the eastern regions as a precondition for joining the government. They were also reportedly at odds with the CDU on such issues as the environment and defense. Still, there seemed to be little doubt that the two parties would eventually reach an agreement. Despite their differences, said the deputy leader Gerhart

Steen last Wednesday, "we also have a lot in common."

For the left-of-center Social Democratic Party, the election outcome was a severe disappointment. Its 49-year-old leader, Lothar de Maizière, 47-year-old Oskar Lafontaine, and the party to its west electoral defeat in 30 years, winning only 33.5 per cent of the vote. Most analysts attributed their poor showing to Lafontaine's obvious lack of experience for Kohl's push toward reunification.

But Germany's two political extremes, the left-wing Green party and the right-wing Republicans party, suffered the most extreme electoral defeat. The Greens, at what used to be West Germany's premier of the European environmental movement in the 1970s and early 1980s, lost all of their 48 parliamentary seats when they failed to win the minimum five per cent of the nationwide vote. Their eastern counterparts, who were campaigning separately in their core half of the country, won only eight seats in the new parliament. Analysts said that the western Green's dismal showing was a result of internal divisions—and of the fact that many of the major parties had adopted their policies. The Social Democratic Party, for example, was an estimated 600,000 Green votes. The Greens had also expressed opposition to the pace of reunification, emphasizing the fate

of minority groups. A left-party spokesman Hans-Christian Ströbele: "We did under the wheels of German unification."

The ultra-right Republicans, regarded by some foreign observers as a dangerous manifestation of resurgent Nazism when they broke into political power years ago, also collapsed in the voting. Like the western Greens, they failed to win a seat out of parliament after capturing only 2.1 per cent of the vote. By contrast, the former East German Communists, now calling themselves the Party of Democratic Socialism, won 9.9 per cent of the vote in the eastern part of the country.

Despite the uncertainties issues involved, the voter turnout of 78 per cent was low by German standards. That may have been partly because of Kohl's phoning, low-key electioneering style. In contrast to his skill and daring in asking for swift reunification despite the enmities of many Germans, and of his Western allies and the Soviet Union, Kohl's oratory and electioneering tactics were noticeably unimpressive. But at least that lack of fervor reassured those at home and abroad who worried the rushing action of the last leader of a united Germany: Adolf Hitler.

JOHN BIERMAN with JOHN MOLLAND in Bonn

## MUTINY IN ARGENTINA

In Buenos Aires, soldiers put down a violent insurrection by about 250 young soldiers demanding changes in the army's high command. Loyalist and rebel troops exchanged gunfire in force down-to-dunk fighting that left 13 soldiers and civilians dead and many more injured before the soldiers surrendered. Two days after the fourth army uprising since 1987, President George Bush, in a five-minute goodwill tour of South America, arrived in Buenos Aires for talks with Argentine President Carlos Menem.

## RESIGNING UNDER PRESSURE

After a state of emergency measure failed to contain violent demonstrations against his authoritarian rule, the president of Bangladesh, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, resigned and handed over power to a civilian leader, Supreme Court Chief Justice Shabuddin Ahmed. More than 50 people were killed and 600 injured during weeks of protest to oust Ershad, who seized power in a 1982 military coup.

## A DEARLY COLLISION

At Detroit's log-board Metropolitan Airport, two passenger planes collided on a runway, killing eight people and injuring 21. Federal investigators said that a taxiing Northwest Airlines 80-9 rolled past its slot and into the path of a Northwest 727, which was taking off. The runway, the 727's wing clipped the airliner's plane, causing a fire that nearly destroyed the 30-9. Shortly before the accident, officials had closed the airport to incoming planes because of heavy snow, sleet and rain.

## OVERTHROW IN CHAD

Three days after Libyan-supported rebels overthrew the capital of Nigamara and forced out President Reneie Habre, who had ruled since 1982, rebel leader Idriss Deby declared himself president. An Habre fled to exile in Cameroon. Deby pledged to bring military democracy to Chad, a former French colony in Central Africa that gained independence in 1960.

## THE TERROR WITHIN

Royal black groups attacked each other with guns, swords, and other weapons in a townships outside Johannesburg, leaving more than 80 people dead in a week of savage fighting. The violence, between supporters of the unseated African National Congress and the Zulu Inkatha Freedom party, brought the truce in three months of warfare to about 1,000 dead. ANC leaders have accused state security forces of provoking the violence to small talks aimed at ending apartheid.

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THE WORLD

### THE SOVIET UNION

## A hunger for change

Gorbachev seeks solutions to a fear of famine

They be convulsed, shivers and cold, enough 20-to-30 gusts for 5,500 sick, disabled or elderly astrophysicists, arrived in a Red Cross truck convey that reached Moscow from Germany on Dec. 4. Later that day, in St. Al. Bering 247 at arrival from Tel Aviv with 10 tons of wheat, tomatoes and oranges. In the same trucks, which are common in the Soviet capital, shoppers avidly discussed the arrival of aid at a time when officials acknowledge that food stocks in major cities are at their lowest point since the Second World War. In many parts of the country, such meagre supplies, coupled with price hoarding and the state-collapse of the distribution system, have sparked fear of famine as winter looms. But last week, President Mikhail Gorbachev asserted that his recent undertakings, including a crackdown on black marketers and a growing \$1.4 billion purchase of imported food, would provide enough to feed the nation for the next three months.

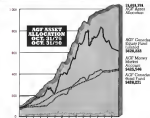
Charitable donations are flowing into the country even though Kremlin authorities have not made official requests for food aid. But recent talks between Gorbachev and Western leaders have generated \$7.4 billion in foreign credits, including wheat terms for nearly \$1 billion in Canadian credits - aid that supporters, including German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, have endorsed on the grounds that it will help the Soviet president to reinvent power.

But within the Soviet Union, Gorbachev has faced rising criticism that he has done little to arrest the country's slide into economic and political chaos. Last week, the Soviet parliament passed a measure that grants the president increased emergency powers, which he can begin exercising even before the Congress of People's Deputies officially ratifies the measure later this month. "While we sit here arguing," Gorbachev told the parliament while the Kremlin, "the situation outside these walls grows worse by the day."

To remedy that situation, the Soviet president has issued authoritarian decrees that seek the creation of so-called workers' control committees. Those grassroots volunteer groups will have the power to inspect local workplaces, supervise deliveries to stores and recommend criminal prosecution for any black-market activities that they uncover. Gorbachev

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Fortune Magazine 1991 Investor's Guide



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## WORLD

cher also bolstered his position as opposition, declaring that the native republic could leave the union only if they waited five years after winning a local referendum on that issue.

But as Gorbachev amassed more power, eroding the ability to act in an emergency without consulting republican leaders, the republics remained divided. Baltic officials rejected their invitation to seek full independence. In fact, in Dec. 1, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia jointly called for the withdrawal of the 300,000-strong Soviet force within their borders, which they termed an "invasion of occupation." That defied a recent warning by Defense Minister Dmitry Yazov that republics should drop such demands and stop trying to form their own national armies.

At the same time, the past Russian Federation again indicated that it was waiting the pace of reform within the Soviet Union. The Russian

legislature passed a law that would allow farmers to keep unspecialized amounts of land from collective farms. Then that vaguely worded law, which seems to reverse a bloody land nationalization program that Soviet dictator Josef Stalin carried out between 1929 and 1933, could provoke another clash between the Russian republic and the central government. The Supreme Soviet has not yet considered a similar national law, and Gorbachev has balked at such reform.

Last week, however, the Soviet leader put forward a relatively modest land privatization program that would provide up to 12.3 million acres to small garden plots for city dwellers and peasants alike. Gorbachev also pledged to rebuild to upgrade the country's inadequate food-producing plants—chronic bottlenecks in the chain. Distribution systems. To illustrate the system's failure, Gorbachev referred to ex-

cessed police checks on 50 Moscow-area food stores in which police found that many employees routinely hid meats and later sold them to black-market dealers. In Moscow alone, the confiscated fruit and vegetable supply organizations reported a staggering \$440-million loss due to thefts during the first nine months of 1990.

Meanwhile, last week, some members of Lemnig's large population of pensioners were using German charity packages to supplement a new rationing system, which allows each citizen 13 eggs and 2.2 lb of meat and canned per month. Some of those recipients say they can't afford Lemnig's last experience with rationing. It was during the Second World War, when German troops besieged the city for 900 days—and hundreds of thousands of people starved to death.

MALCOLM GRAY is in Moscow.



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# THE HOPE AND THE HEARTACHE



## HUSSEIN STARTS TO RELEASE HIS HOSTAGES, BUT THE THREAT OF WAR STILL LOOMS

*The hardest thing in coming over here was seeing my wife, deciding how to split up what I did. They send you into a new area and you have to think you might die.*

—Canadian Cpl Dale Warner at a desert airbase in Qatar

*I still can't feel it totally, not until I see Fred. That's all I want for Christmas.*

—Janet Sterling of Calgary, whose husband, Fred, has been held in Iraq-occupied Kuwait; she was reacting to President Saddam Hussein's announcement last week that he will release all remaining hostages

Perhaps it will end peacefully after all. Perhaps Saddam Hussein will withdraw his forces from Kuwait, and the numerous international contingent arrayed against them will leave the Persian Gulf, sparing thousands of lives on both sides. Suddenly last week, that possibility, once apparently dead, began to seem like more than just wishful thinking. The Iraqi president's announcement that he is releasing all hostages in Iraq and Kuwait, including more than 41 Canadians, unleashed a roaring cheer from his so-called Iraqi guards and their families. He may also have improved the prospects for a diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis, and perhaps even the chance for negotiations on the larger issues dividing the Middle East (page 32).

Perhaps. For now, the governing uncertainty remains. And the fear, and the waiting, and the fact that war—high stakes, high-tech, horrific—is still a chilling possibility. President George Bush continued to insist last week that Hussein's forces withdrawal by the UN-imposed deadline of Jan. 15, which is rarely one of the first times that a potential war has actually been scheduled. But a new wave of international support for warlike, both overseas and among North Americans, dwindle following Hussein's hostage successes, particularly with U.S. and Iraqi officials' contemplating direct talks as early as next week?

That was the striking paradox in the strongman's maneuvering. He detained the foreigners

in the first place, he said, to prevent attack by using them as human shields at strategic military and industrial sites. Then, with the fear of war rising around the world, he was clearly calculating that releasing the hostages was his best hope of avoiding an assault.

But for the nearly 1,700 Canadian troops in the Gulf, and for their families and friends at home faced nervously to the news, the prospects for combat remained painfully apparent. Those tight twirlinging war planes the invading Canadian C-119s are dangerously close to Iraqi-occupied Kuwait City, and those Gulf waters that the three Canadian warships patrol are the world's vital, and potentially volatile, oil lanes (page 34). There is also a cogitant possibility that the Iraqis would employ deadly nerve and chemical gases as they did in their war with Iran and against their own Kurdish minority. And there was the grim hinting in the November issue of an Ottawa publication called *Government Business Opportunities*, hinting at a contract for 800 body bags—"pouch for human remains, water and not resistant."

If fighting does erupt, the Canadian Forces, traditional peacekeepers, will become warriors for the first time since the Korean conflict of 1950 to 1953. There were other battles earlier in the century. Canadians manned the trenches

operating, while Canadian flying aces took down Allied planes and arrows. By war's end, about 62,000 Canadians had been killed and the country's 471 ship Navy was the world's third largest after the American and the British.

By those epic standards, Ottawa's Gulf deployment, three ships and 18 warships, is relatively small. But amid the tumultuous ratcheting of big guns and tanks, many Canadians, both in the streets and in Parliament, have asked their voices to the spreading airwar sentiment in America. They ask why the alliance seems to be rushing towards war without giving worldwide economic sanctions more time to force Hussein out of Kuwait. Critics also question whether oil supplies, sovereignty or democracy means are the real cause of the conflict. After all, another Kuwait, not Saudi Arabia, is a democracy. Washington has offered one explanation after another. Ottawa officials, meanwhile, insist that they have not just blindly followed the Americans down the previous path to confrontation.

The reactions of the Canadian troops themselves range from bemusement to bewilderment. But for the moment, they are fighting not Iraq but a mounting boredom and the going unknown—"like walking down a darkened hall-



Former hostage Robert Beck and wife, Mercedes; Canadian soccer star (left) cheers

at the First World War; 60,000 were killed, including 7,000 Canadians at Ypres, Belgium, where some were engulfed by a cloud of German-fired chlorine gas in the modern era's first chemical attack.

In the Second World War, 207 Canadians died in a single, ill-considered assault on the high German-held cliffs of the French port of Dieppe in 1942. But Canadians went on to play a successful part in the daring D-Day invasion of Normandy two years later and in other

ways," said Lt.-Col. Edward Campbell, commander of 409 Squadron in Qatar. And so the war continues. The hostages prepare to come home at last. The UN deadline draws nearer, the end-game diplomatic plays act on a knife-edge between war and peace. And in the holiday season approaches, the service hardens duty to their hopes—with a special, personal intensity this year—for peace on earth.

# HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

## HUSSEIN STARTS TO RELEASE HIS 'GUESTS'

**I**raqi President Saddam Hussein, last week, gave the world an unexpected Christmas present, for which everyone could be grateful: freedom for the foreign hostages, including more than 40 Canadians, whom he has been holding since his invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 5. Barring unforeseen difficulties, all of the more than 2,000 so-called Western "guests" will be home for the holidays. And as the first hostages began to leave Baghdad last weekend, hopes rose somewhat that what the Iraqi dictator called a "goodwill gesture" signaled the beginning of the end of the Gulf crisis.

Those hopes could prove to be premature. While tiding the hostage release as "a historic and significant" U.S. Secretary of State James Baker insisted that it did not mean American determination to secure Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait. President George Bush, on tour in Latin America, echoed that view, adding, "We've got to keep the pressure on." In fact, there was a sign that Hussein was contemplating a recent from Kuwait. His information minister, Laif Nassif al-Jassir, repeated last Thursday that "Kuwait is part of Iraq, and this status has become final." And many analysts questioned that Hussein's action in freeing the hostages was not a capitulation to U.S. pressure, but a shrewd diplomatic stroke aimed at weakening U.S. resolve. In any case, the analysts said, Hussein had eliminated a public relations liability while encouraging a rising tide of anti-entirement in Congress and among U.S. citizens.

**Wringing:** Adding to the American diplomatic problems, Washington was again embarrassed by a proposed UN Security Council resolution criticizing Iraq's use of the Palestine problem, which Iraq has been trying to exploit to a solution of the Gulf crisis. And at week's end, Washington and Baghdad were wringing over arrangements for direct diplomacy. U.S. officials said that they would not confirm Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz's meeting with Bush in Washington, planned for Dec. 17, until the Iraqi had agreed on a date for Baker's reciprocal trip to Baghdad to talk with Hussein. The Iraqi strongman decided to free all the hostages in apparent response to the urging of these Arab leaders who visited Baghdad last week. King Hussein of Jordan, Prince Fahd bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia, and King Hassan II of Morocco had all visited Hussein to urge him to free the hostages. Expressing his "apologies for any harm done," he acknowledged that the holding of foreigners, some of whom had been

stationed as so-called human shields at strategic locations, had not been "correct" in humanitarian or practical terms.

The reactions of the hostages and their families were predictably positive. In Baghdad, Canadian banker Ian Robertson, from Edmonton, celebrated with friends at the luxurious Al-Haram Hotel, where they have been staying.

"We have a little party going on," said Robertson. "We have already drunk a couple of bottles of champagne." Terry Lowmrey, 38, from St. Catharines, Ont., had similar news. "We're going to party until the roost," he said, "and pour champagne on our heads."

**Peace in Montreal:** Also, news of the release reached hostage Wade Sarr's wife, Patricia, just as she was preparing to fly to Baghdad with at least 10 other Canadian wives to plead for their husbands' freedom. "It's just wonderful," she said. "After months of uncertainty about Wade, we can look forward to a quiet Christmas at home." Some of the trapped Canadians had apparently spent the past few months in killing in Kuwait, avoiding arrest by the Iraqi military. One of them, a computer consultant from Toronto, his wife, Audrey, said that she received Hussein's announcement as if "a little bomb" had been thrown with a grenade. And at week's end, Washington and Baghdad were wringing over arrangements for direct diplomacy. U.S. officials said that they would not confirm Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz's meeting with Bush in Washington, planned for Dec. 17, until the Iraqi had agreed on a date for Baker's reciprocal trip to Baghdad to talk with Hussein. The Iraqi strongman decided to free all the hostages in apparent response to the urging of these Arab leaders who visited Baghdad last week. King Hussein of Jordan, Prince Fahd bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia, and King Hassan II of Morocco had all visited Hussein to urge him to free the hostages. Expressing his "apologies for any harm done," he acknowledged that the holding of foreigners, some of whom had been

of six Canadian men and a woman. One of them, oil driller Thomas Wolf, 30, of Rocky Mountain House, Alta., arrived at Edmonton International Airport on Dec. 4 to find his wife, Sandra, and a handful of his relatives. Wearing yellow cautioners and clusters of embroidered balloons, Wolf's relatives cheered as he and fellow former hostage Robert McKen emerged the arrivals lounge. "I knew he would be back," said Wolf's grandmother, 80-year-old Mary "Chasie" Chen. "It's a good boy and he knows how to look after himself."

**Strike:** Meanwhile, U.S. policy in the Gulf was coming under increasing scrutiny last week. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and Secretary of State Baker appeared before the Senate Armed Services and Foreign Relations committees in Washington.

Senators closely questioned them about the administration's apparent readiness to abandon the northern policy and launch a military strike against the Iraqis if they do not leave Kuwait by the unambiguous deadline of Jan. 15. And when Cheney told the Armed Services committee that military action was the only sure way to force the Iraqis out of Kuwait, committee chairman Senator Sam Nunn was clearly unimpressed. "If we have a war," he declared, "we're never going to know" if American aims were reached.

But committee Foreign Relations committee chairman Senator Jesse Helms said that Cheney had delivered. He declared that he was "very pessimistic" about the effectiveness of the administration's current policy. He added that, if the administration refused to force, it would be using "indefinite, vaguely and decelerately." Those remarks sparked heated exchanges between Helms and some Democratic members of the Senate panel, who implied that the administration was moving steadily towards a war that could claim tens of thousands of lives. Clearly offended, Helms retorted, "Out of my window at the state department, I look everyday at Arlington National Cemetery, and



Thomas and Sandra Wolf in Edmonton: seven Canadians were freed earlier after a Baghdad visit by three MPs

I understand very well what it's like here."

In earlier testimony, two former chairmen of the joint chiefs of staff, Admiral William Crowe and Gen. David Jones, both retired during military action. Those scenes, and opposition from the Democratic senators, indicated that support for Bush's handling of the Gulf crisis may be weakening in Congress. In tandem with a sharp drop in opinion polls about Bush's performance. And according to some analysts, Hussein's decision to release the hostages could accelerate that trend. Jay Collins, director of congressional affairs at Washington's independent Center for Strategic and International Studies, described Hussein's announcement as "a brilliant move" that would "most definitely" make it much harder for Bush to start a war. Added Collins, "Hussein is watching our policies slip into it. It makes us wonder if there still is a war option."

**Force:** Meanwhile, a Washington Post/News poll showed that public approval for Bush's Gulf policy had fallen to 61 per cent on Dec. 5 from 75 per cent on Aug. 20. Still, 63 per cent of those polled said that the United States, which by the end of the year is scheduled to have 490,000 troops in the region, should go to war to force Iraq out of Kuwait after Jan. 15.

While public attention focused on the Senate hearings and the pending release of the hostages, the United States was engaged in delicate backdoor maneuvering in the UN Security Council, which only the week before had sanc-

tioned the use of force to drive Iraq from Kuwait. This time, the topic was the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, who last weekend quietly marked the 25th anniversary of their expulsion, or uprooting, after the 23-year-old Israeli occupation. Earlier in New York City, a draft resolution sponsored by the non-permanent members, Malaysia, Colombia, Cuba and Yemen, called for the urgent establishment of a UN team to monitor Israeli treatment of the occupied Palestinians. The draft resolution also "condemns" that international peace conference on the Middle East "as an appropriate time" would "facilitate the achievement of a comprehensive settlement and lasting peace."

**Name:** Despite that cautious language, many Israeli and American Jews quickly expressed alarm at reports that the United States was preparing to support the resolution. U.S. administrations have long accepted the idea of a Middle East peace conference in principle but that they threatened to use their veto to prevent it from being endorsed as a binding Security Council resolution, act of deference to the Israelis who vehemently oppose the talks. Now, because of the American alliance with Arab states that oppose Iraq's aggression, it appeared that the Bush administration could allow such a resolution to pass, if only by failing to vote on the Security Council veto. But Bush and Baker vigorously denied such reports that the U.S. delegation was actively supporting the idea of a peace conference. And Israeli Prime

Minister Yitzhak Shamir, on his way to Washington for talks with Bush scheduled for Dec. 13, said in London that Israel would neither participate in nor accept the discussion of any such conference. "It's a non-starter," said Shamir.

Meanwhile, U.S. diplomats conferred with their counterparts behind the scenes at UN headquarters in New York. Their clear aim was to avoid any appearance of linkage between the Gulf and the Arab-Israeli dispute. Hussein has long insisted that any solution to the Gulf crisis was conditional on a solution of other regional issues, namely the Palestinian problem. In Chile, on his Latin American tour, Bush seemed adamant on that point. "There will be and is no linkage to the Palestinian or the West Bank question," he declared.

At the same time, U.S. and Iraqi officials were trying to work out arrangements for the direct talks, which Bush offered, and Hussein accepted, two weeks ago. Bush and Baker have both insisted that those contacts could not be to negotiate but merely to report on the Iraqis that they must give UN resolutions and withdraw from Kuwait. But Hussein clearly held a different view. And his decision to release the hostages seemed calculated to strengthen his position where he and Baker came face to face.

**JOHN REBERMAN** with **JOHN BARNER** in Washington, **JERIC SLEVIN** in Jerusalem and **MARY NEMETH** and **ANDREW RUSSELL** in Toronto



Bashir Hapli Hussein: no retreat from Kuwait

# 'THE PERSIAN EXCURSION'

SWEATY, HOMESICK AND RESTLESS, CANADIAN FORCES WAIT

Some people have argued that Canada should not have sent planes and ships, that such a military role is incompatible with our role as a peacekeeper. Such arguments are based on a serious misunderstanding of Canada's history. When called upon to play an part in collective efforts to roll back aggression and to defend freedom, Canada did never shirk its responsibilities.

—Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, House of Commons, Sept. 24, 1990

It is the busy place of the Persian Gulf war. Petty Officer 2nd Class Sam Gentry sat on the remote deck of the Canadian naval supply ship *Protecteur* awaiting a self-help book called *Personality Plus*. The 28-year-old naval weapons technician from Port Hope, Ont., said that the book might help him resolve a personal problem: he had ordered two bananas on his gut craves to load the weapons, and the men had become fed tempered in the heat. The weapons would cool, but the Gulf and the implacable Arabian desert to the west would not, except at night, and then only slightly. Gentry, 31 years in the navy, gladly relinquishes the leisure and the obvious privacy of his perch on the cover of a volcanic shaft. Besides trying to improve his skills as a brother of man, he says, that he spends his time there writing letters home, fighting boredom and wondering what will happen tomorrow or next week on the only shielded against Iraq President Saddam Hussein. "I think I'll be home beyond January," he said with confidence, "and I think there will be a war." Gentry's preoccupations mirror those of civil members of the nearly 1,200-member Canadian contingent in the 37-nation force mobilized against Hussein following his Aug. 2 occupation of Kuwait.

Rather than they arrived in the Gulf nearly three months ago, the sailors aboard the *Protecteur* and the destroyers *Abdullah* and *Tennis Nova* have been hiding and occasionally boarding merchant ships to enforce the UN embargo against Iraq. The 19-18 fighter pilots and ground crews of 149 Squadron, quartered at the airbase of Qatar, have provided air cover for the ships and surveillance on the coast and northern Gulf region. Meanwhile, both sailors and their crews have endured the toughest test short of war for Iraqis in the field writing. They wait for Hussein to make a fateful move. They wait for the United States to launch an offensive. They wait for the relative coolness and grandeur of the next desert season. They wait for letters from wives or husbands more than 4,000 miles away on the other side of the world, where the duststorm



situation is clearly not boredom—but sweaty, sweaty, homesick and restless, they converse practical jokes, play Monopoly, rent discs and talk about old beer, women and Christmas. They dig sand from their ears and eyes, boots and weapons. Between air patrols, the pilots and ground crewers sleep for sometime. Arab robes, bandages and candle wall hangings in the narrow lanes of the mess in Dhahran, the critically watered and air-conditioned capital of Saudi Arabia, lie within range of Iraqi Scud-B missiles, and 250 miles from the command of a hostile army bigger than the population of Saskatchewan, does seem to have a little bit of home. On lived oases, on duty and pride of country, on living and perhaps dying, in an alien land.

The shores of his blue shirt rolled up and eyes hidden behind reflecting sunglasses, Gentry prepared in the midday heat. "I don't think anyone has the right to hold the entire world for ransom," he said. "We're here because we were asked to help." In fact and above him, the lieutenants of the over-40-year-old navy's gun pointed seaward. Such weapons were fairly effective against 250-mile-an-hour Japanese and German light- or medium-weight half a century ago. But in the age of laser-guided missiles, they are really massive pieces. "What you see here," said Gentry, "is a *Blackhawk*, a temporary fix."

**Power:** He is the devoted father of a four-year-old daughter, Sarah, and he has a girlfriend, Beth Wilber, a 21-year-old British woman and loving woman in the naval reserve. Before the *Protecteur* sailed from Port in August, he gave her power of attorney over his affairs. In her letters, she tells him about the state of his bank account and how much she misses him. She also wrote a poem for him:

We are separated by water  
And neither can improve.  
But I know my love reaches  
you at your heart does make,  
our love knowing, keeping  
both apart and strong.

One night during his watch, Gentry composed a verse for Wilber:



Cpl. Carole Tremblay: firing exercise on the *Protecteur* Gulf's horizon

I wish my hands could  
reach across the miles of space  
that separate us,  
just to touch your face,  
to once again see  
your smile,  
already expressed on my mind.

Gentry said that he tells Wilber and his mother about his time and his boredom. "I tell them that not much will happen and I'll be over soon," he added. The letters began appearing again Gentry's relief his eyes have been closed and made a face.

At the airbase near Doha, two pilots talked about life-and-death in the air. "We've few of us that about killing someone," said Lt. Col. Patrick Howell, a 23-year-old CF-18 pilot from Red Deer, Alta. "But the guys out around saying war would knock out and everyone wants to be a part of that, I can do. It doesn't mean we will be too, but it's a challenge and we all want to meet a challenge." Howell's on-duty call name used to be Thorpe. Then, one day, he crashed the command-and-control's control loop while spending around the desert. Now, his call name is Thorpe, and Thorpe, in a key asset for a fighter pilot.

Howell and Cpl. David Stone, 30, of Yellowknife, Ont., sitting at a game table, had just returned from one of the routine air patrols





Winnipeg City Hall, has been in the arsenal before for 38 years. "The reason I wanted to be a cook was to not regularly," he said. Schreyer has a secondary duty, if the base is attacked with chemical warfare weapons, he will be in charge of decontaminating and cleaning troops and vehicles.

Schreyer supervises the 16 cooks who prepare three hot meals a day. He said: "The worst thing at our business is a big stafford." On or off the base, he said, "the biggest threat is the terrorist threat. If you go downtown and shop, you walk the vehicle before starting it up. I try not to let people know I'm a Canadian soldier." Similarly, when the sailors at the Gulf go ashore, they keep a low profile. But Canada's army, says "Operation Friction," the official code name for the Canadian operation, on the back. On the front is the inscription, "The Persian Excursion"—which is a lot of fun.

Paullett Schreyer said that he had hoped to employ exotic ingredients in his menu until he discovered that some of the food at Qatar is imported from Europe. When he is at home, said Schreyer's wife, Johanna, who lives near Baden, Germany, he stays strictly out of the kitchen. "Once I asked him to help me make dinner for two of us and he peed 16



Thomas Ashman: "I would rather be thought of as peacekeepers."

points of position," she said. "He has no concept of salt portions."

Below decks on the Protector, master sergeant Rick Doudou, 36, of Port aux Basques, Nfld., was surrounded by a metal forest of squares, writing machines, table saws, electronic readouts, power planes, steel workbenches and piles of wood. A hull technician, he would have been called a shipwright in the old navy. "We're here to defend friends," he said, waving his arm for emphasis. "We don't sleep

Pump and I, we're both frustrated with crooked drawings.

To Mowsey and Derrin, From Daddy I love U to much and I say you everyday I can't wait to come home So all of us are happy

Marine engineer Vic Murphy emerges from the Protector's boiler room decorated in sweat, a bloody gash on his forehead, sufficed

this guy where he's at, then suddenly it will become a major problem, not a minor one. Canadian don't know how good we got at." Even so, Doudou added: "Once in a while, you think of all the things that can happen and you worry, that you try to block it out of your mind because it doesn't do any good to dwell on it. You try to remain happy and smile." What Debbie Hooten should do, said Doudou, is get out of Kuwait, "pay damages to the people and go home tonight."

Melinda Perry, Canada's 35-year-old aerospace law wife, lives in Dartmouth, N.S., with their eight-month-old son, David, nine, mouth filled with arrowroot biscuit, wheeled periodically around the living room in a walker. "Every Wednesday, I'm sure to get letter from him," said their parents, lovingly

Photo by David Hooten

Photo by David Hooten

ten, Alicia, 7, and Griffin, 5, and son Zachary, 4½ months, who is based after a regular during the day. Ashman said that the recent home to have her youngest child, she added, "I had known this was going to happen, I would never have had another baby."

William Leclerc, 44, does little to sleep but has been about serving in a potential war zone. "I'm scared," she said. "Especially when they start to talk about with and people of attorney." But, she added, "I need the military, so I've got to expect something like this." The brother-in-law, Peter Williamson, is also in the Gulf, as a member of the C-14 squadron in Qatar. Said Doudou Ashman: "One family is doing more than our share."

ANDREW BELLING with Mary MacKenzie aboard the Protector and Glen Allen at Darmstadt



Barry Schreyer (left) giving instructions to one of his staff: "the worst thing is not knowing"

while comparing a steam leak. A 32-year-old, 15-year veteran from Ferguson Falls, Ont., near Ottawa, Murphy, like the rest of the crew, had to shove off his head. Chemical warfare masks will not fit properly over a beard. Mur-

phy said that he joined the navy at 17 because "all my friends were getting into drugs, into trouble, and I figured that if I did Navy, I would end up in jail." Before he sailed, he said, he gave his wife, Cindy, 31, control of his affairs

are a lot of yellow sickness around Halifax

Photo by David Hooten

Photo by David Hooten

## FLYING INTO THE UNKNOWN

Ashman said that his childhood dream was to become a fighter pilot. Maj. Aaron (Shel) Hart, 37, recalled that at a farm job in Centreville, N.B., he would watch U.S. air force jets from a base in neighboring Maine streak across the sky. Now a 20-year veteran, he said, "It's the most exciting job in the world, but now it's close to me." Capt. Shomo (Burr) Byrnes, 37, of Courtney, B.C., said that he remembers wanting to be a pilot at the age of 8, when his father, an aviator flying instructor, took him to see a show by the U.S. Thunderbolts. Golden rule, he recalls, was not for him.

"Fighter pilots are a breed apart," said Byrnes. "Who wants to ride a merry-go-round when you can ride the roller coaster?" In October, both men left the Canadian Forces base in Baden, Germany, to help provide air support for Canadian and American ships at the Persian Gulf.

As the prospect of war looms over the region, both men said that they are anxious to use their training in combat. "You can spend all your professional life in the military and never put yourself against the ultimate test," said Byrnes. Added Hart, "I'd love to find out if everything I've learned is as good as I think."

The talk at the operations center at the Qinetik unit, the Gulf base for Canada's 409th tactical squadron of CF-18 fighter jets, is full of such bravado. During a recent



Mirre: "It's the most exciting job in the world, but now"

interview with Marlene, Hart talked about being prepared to "look out" and "shoot down airplanes." But he and Byrnes also talked humbly about their families—and their desire to get home. "I don't want to die up there," said Hart, who, with his wife, Carol Anne, has two daughters, Madison, 18, and Tabitha, 13. "Obviously we made preparations. I updated my will and I checked out my life insurance."

Byrnes, who joined the air force in 1982, talked about the benefits of separation from home. "I've been in for a while and I've seen a lot of things that I've never seen before," he said. "I've seen a lot of things that I've never seen before."

Photo by David Hooten

Both men complained that time drugs when they are not flying. "I've tired the idea of a day off," said Hart, trying with a paper airplane. "Time is so heavy that you want to go to your watch rack. You can only do so many laps of the track." For his part, Byrnes declared, "The waiting game is the worst." Flying routine missions over the Gulf, he said, can be "hours of your boredom followed by seconds of sheer terror, but if we let our guard down during combat, we're going to get killed." Added Byrnes, "If anyone thought they had come out of the Hilton and pay Club Med, they're really mistaken."

Photo by David Hooten

Photo by David Hooten

## A FAMILY AFFAIR IN THE GULF

Master Cpl. Thomas Ashman was in a collective mood. "In the letters I send my wife, I tell her that I love her and not to worry that I'll be home," said the 37-year-old medical assistant aboard sister Protector as the Persian Gulf. He added, "I'm not about to tell her I'm having a miserable time—my wife wouldn't dump her waffles on me either." Ashman's wife, in fact, is also at the base. And after he completes his Gulf tour in January, it will be Cpl. Thomas Ashman's turn to send letters home. In February, after a family reunion at Darmstadt, N.S., during which the couple and their three children plan to celebrate a belated Christmas together, she is scheduled to join the crew of the Protector as a helicopter technician.

As a medical assistant, Thomas Ashman sees patients each morning in the ship's sick bay. The non-war veteran and native of Kingston, Ont., also goes home to lectures on laundry, hygiene and safe sex to

the young men. He says that he is a "little bit" of a doctor, nurse, and a babysitter if they don't know much. "I'm the only one who can help them out," he said. "I'm not coming home. I stay but then we want their money." He also expressed some anxiety of his own about his wife's role in the Gulf. "I can't see that we are fighting for democracy, because Kuwait is not a democracy," said Ashman.

"It's all about oil," he added. "I would rather be thought of as peacekeepers, and I think we lost something with this mission." Still, he said that he has no doubts about his own role. "I'm glad I'm here and I can still prevent someone from dying."

While her husband is at sea, Denise Ashman, 32, of Hamilton, spends her days doing copies on Sea King helicopters at Canadian Forces Base Shearwater, outside Dartmouth. In the evenings, she looks after the children, daug-



Ashman: "Yes, I'm scared"

Photo by David Hooten

Photo by David Hooten

Photo by David Hooten



European farmers demonstrating in Brussels' anger against U.S. demands for sharp cuts in EC agricultural subsidies

## BUSINESS

# A COSTLY STANDOFF

For Gerald Finn, last week's unprecedented round of world trade talks in Brussels was a frustrating chance to almost three years of hard work. The director of government relations at petrochemical giant Nova Corp. spent five hectic days in the Belgian capital, pressing Canada's case for freer trade in chemical products. "The potential gains from a new trade agreement are great," and Finn, whose company employs 3,380 Canadians and owns 40 per cent of its Canadian revenues from exports. "But if the round fails," he added, "the cost to us will grow as we become more international in scope." By week's end, however, Finn and dozens of other business leaders who had accompanied the 175-member Canadian delegation to Brussels were clearly pessimistic. Four years after it began, the latest round of trade negotiations seemed unacceptably to a halt—with an agreement in any of the 18 areas, from agriculture to banking, that are in dispute.

## AFTER YEARS OF TALKS, THE STANDOFF BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE IS STILL UNRESOLVED

In an eleven-hour effort to save the talks from collapse, the 187 countries taking part in the negotiations agreed to consider resuming their discussions early next year in Geneva. But few of the participants held out much hope for a breakthrough on the key issue of farm subsidies, which places the United States, Can-

ada and other agricultural exporting nations in opposition to the protectionist European Community. For his part, Trade Minister John Crosbie told Marlene's that a failure to break the deadlock in negotiations next year could provoke a worldwide increase in tariff barriers and other protectionist measures that limit international trade. "Unless there is an agreement, there will be unilateral action by the economic groups who can afford it—the European Community, the United States and Japan," Crosbie warned. "We can expect trade harassment to rise around the world." Economists warn that if trade frictions increase, Canadians may lose thousands of jobs in export-sensitive industries, including forestry, mining and agriculture. And the imposition of new tariff barriers could mean higher prices for a wide range of imported products, from silicon wafers to European wines and cheeses.

The anger and bitterness that surrounded the current session of negotiations under the Gen-

eral Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was almost as soon as last week's meeting began. As the delegates arrived in Brussels, 30,000 European farmers staged a militant demonstration to denounce a U.S. proposal for sharp cuts in its agricultural subsidies. Some of the demonstrators locked trucks in several areas, while others stood behind coils of barbed wire.

The standstills inside the negotiating rooms were somewhat more polite, but the participants were equally intransigent. There were signs at one point that a 18-nation bloc was preparing to introduce its position. But in the end, the Community's negotiators held firmly to their original proposal of a 30-per-cent cut in farm-support programs over 20 years using Helsinki as a base. The United States, by contrast, continued to insist on a 75-per-cent reduction in external farm supports and a 90-per-cent cut in export subsidies. Said Crosbie: "The United States has been waiting for the EC to blink, but it turns out that the EC has glass eyes."

Underlying the mood of pessimism, U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills said that there is "no guarantee" that the trade talks will resume next year. Meanwhile, some economists add that Washington appears to be pursuing a new trade strategy that emphasizes bilateral and regional cooperation, instead of a global agreement under the GATT. In June, President George Bush called for a free trade zone stretching from Alaska to the southern tip of South America. He requested his support for a hemisphere trade agreement last week during a whirlwind meeting with five South American countries, including Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela. In Caracas, the Venezuelan capital, Bush issued a statement describing the suspension of GATT talks as "all the more disappointing given the very constructive attitude taken by many developing countries, particularly many of our friends in Latin America."

But Bush's call for a trade agreement linking North and South America is opposed by some U.S.—as well as Canadian—economists. Joseph Blagomir of Columbia University in New York City, for one, says that the world is overvaluing the benefits of regional trading blocs anchored by Western Europe, the United States and Japan. That weakens global economic growth by encouraging countries to purchase goods from less efficient producers, rather than buying from the most efficient suppliers. Added Blagomir: "The Bush trip to South America is a joke. These countries are not going to change their own economic situation. The EC will not be threatened by something as

small as this. They are already looking towards economic integration in 1992."

At the same time, trade experts say that Canada's economy would be badly hurt by a breakdown in GATT negotiations. Currently, 30 per cent of Canada's economy is dependent on foreign trade, and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Technology, which oversees the Ottawa-based Centre for Trade Policy and Law. In agriculture, Canadian wheat farmers are already feeling the effects of the farm subsidy war between the United States and the EC, which has driven down the price of high-quality Canadian spring wheat by 34 per cent in the past year. And South says that a failure of the GATT round would make the situation even worse. "Our grain farmers will get clubbed right away," he adds. "If the subsidy war continues, we could see farm income drop by 50 per cent over the next three to five years, and that is already in the context of a very low base."

The damaging effects of a GATT breakdown would likely spread to other sectors, as well. As part of their tough negotiating stance in Brussels, U.S. negotiators refused to conclude an agreement to ease the other key areas of discussion without an agreement on agriculture. The long list of unresolved issues includes demands for wider markets for banking and service sectors, and protection for intellectual property, such as patents on pharmaceuticals and computer software. Canada's export-dependent resource sector—forestry, mining and fisheries—would also suffer if other countries responded to the failure of the GATT talks by levying new or higher tariffs on such products. South says that the damage to the Canadian economy is in some way related to the export sector. "All services, such as health, education and communications, depend on that sector," he added. "Almost all of our prosperity comes from exports."

For the moment, there is at least a glimmer of hope that the deadlock could be broken early next year. Analysts say that neither the EC nor the United States, which have traditionally been among the strongest supporters of the GATT, wants to be blamed for its failure. And the Bush administration is under increasing pressure to move before March 3, the deadline set by Congress to approve a GATT agreement without additional amendments. Since a disappointed Canada as the talks drew to a close last week in Brussels: "We may get to be able to salvage the talks I hope so. We have a ball of a lot at stake here," Canada's exporters—and many consumers—were keenly aware of the danger

Crosbie: 'Annoyed'



PATRICIA CHISHOLM with correspondent's report

## Business Notes

### UNEMPLOYMENT SOARS

The unemployment rate in November topped 10 per cent, the highest level since May, 1987. The jobless rate jumped by 0.3 percentage point to 9.4 per cent, from a 9.1 per cent in October. Statistics Canada said that there were 1,244,000 unemployed people in November, an increase of 38,900 from the month before.

### SID-ROGINS MILLS FINES

An Ontario court judge told Canada's third largest miller, Maple Leaf Mills Ltd., that it must pay a \$2.6-million fine for violating the 1987 and 1988 pulp and paper industry codes of conduct. The fine was levied after the company failed to comply with the codes in 1987 and 1988. The codes were the largest ever imposed under the federal Competition Act. The codes involved about 1,500 million worth of contracts with the Canadian International Development Agency.

### PUTTING LOW

The 6th-largest airline in the United States filed for bankruptcy protection in federal court in New York City last week. Continental Airlines said, however, that it will continue to serve all 44 locations, which include Toronto and Vancouver.

### BAKERS BOUNCE BACK

Four of Canada's six major banks reported record profits for the 1989 1989 fiscal year ending on Oct. 30. Last week, the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the country's top two banks, reported record profits of \$964.9 million and \$953 million, respectively. Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Nova Scotia also reported record earnings. Total profits for the Big Six, including the Toronto-Dominion Bank and the National Bank of Canada, were \$3.6 billion.

### A RESERVE CHANGE

In the United States, the Federal Reserve Board has moved to spur the economy by reducing its reserve in Canada. In the first change in reserve requirements since 1983, the board lowered its rules on the reserves that banks must hold to cover outstanding loans.

### KEY SAYS NO SECRET DEAL

Richard Nixon, the U.S. ambassador to Canada, denied allegations that Ottawa secretly agreed to raise the value of the Canadian dollar to U.S. approval of the 1989 Free Trade Agreement. He denied an "understandings" the claim made by former federal cabinet minister Stephen Sturges, who resigned over conflict-of-interest allegations in 1986.



Calgary worker inspecting a phone part: 'questions about management'

## A falling high-tech star

Troubles with NovaTel shake Alberta

Until recently, NovaTel Communications Ltd. was one of the brightest stars in Canada's galaxy of high-tech companies. Founded in 1983, the Calgary-based firm is one of North America's leading manufacturers of cellular telephones, competing successfully with Japanese and U.S. corporations many times its size. But in the last few months, NovaTel's future has dimmed. The Nov. 28 Toronto stock exchange firm had sold off approximately \$170 million for half the company abruptly—and without specifying its reasons—piled out of the deal. On the same day, NovaTel's parent company, Telus Corp., fired three of its top executives on the grounds that they had raised an overly optimistic forecast of NovaTel's 1990 earnings—one that was off by \$20.9 million. Those revelations have shaken confidence in Premier Donald Getty's Alberta government, as well as in the province's fledgling high-tech industry. Said Robert Price, a consultant with the Toronto-based consulting firm Transcanada Group Inc.: "If they really wanted to screw themselves, they did it the best way possible."

The roller-coaster maker is a wholly owned subsidiary of Telus Corp., a heavily provincial Crown corporation that until October was known as Alberta Government Telephones (AGT). In June, facing a free-enterprise sentiment against state involvement in business, Getty unveiled plans to privatize most of AGT.

But the \$98-million sale, the largest single stock offering in Canadian history, ran into problems on Sept. 23 when NovaTel revealed that it expected to lose \$4 million in the second half of 1990, instead of earning \$16 million as it had predicted just 13 days earlier. In a bid to save the privatization effort, the province told investors that it would cover the shortfall in NovaTel's earnings for the remainder of the year. In addition, the government gave Telus the right to sell NovaTel back to the province by Dec. 31, 1991.

According to some analysts, the province may be forced to honor that commitment. In Calgary last week, Telus president Richard Solender told Maclean's that he expects to announce soon whether his company will exercise the option of acquiring NovaTel on the Alberta government. He added, however, that Telus officials are still exploring the possibility of selling part or all of NovaTel to another buyer. Said Solender: "We don't expect this to drag out. We will make our decision sooner rather than later."

Either way, the problems at NovaTel will likely prove costly for Alberta taxpayers. For a

start, the provincial treasury will have to make up the \$20.9-million difference between NovaTel's original earnings forecast and the revised projection. And some observers say that the total bill could rise to as much as \$170 million if Telus decides to sell to the province all of NovaTel, rather than the 50-percent share that Solender-based, Robert Bosch GmbH, a leading international manufacturer of electronic equipment, chose not to purchase.

But the collapse of the Bosch deal is only one of several clouds hanging over NovaTel. Price, for one, says that he is even more concerned about the Nov. 28 element of the three senior NovaTel executives—chairman and chief executive officer John Barrow, president Sanford Gandy Moore and group controller Robert Verma Solender, who announced the firm, and that the executives should have informed Telus sooner that the subsidiary was poised to lose money this year—as it has every year since its founding.

In Edmonton, provincial NDP MLA Alex MacEachern, the party's telecommunications critic, called on the Alberta Securities Commission to investigate NovaTel's decision to prove so farthest during the share offering. Declared MacEachern: "Somebody should be asking, 'Who knew what, and when did they know it?' Somebody at NovaTel had to go. But maybe they were the wrong guys."

For his part, provincial Telecommunications Minister Frederick Stewart defended the government's role in the Telus privatization. He said that NovaTel's original earnings forecast had been accepted by two independent accounting firms, as well as by the 11 national underwriting firms that participated in the Telus share offering. Declared Stewart: "The offering was done totally in compliance with all securities regulations."

Still, the NovaTel blunder is another blow to Alberta's ambitious dreams of a high-tech industry. Former premier Peter Lougheed, the driving force behind NovaTel's creation, said at the time that the company would help to reduce the province's dependency on its traditional resource base—oil and natural gas, and agriculture. But Alberta's drive to expand into advanced technology has produced mixed results. In January, Edmonton-based General Systems Research, which manufactured industrial lasers, went into receivership despite the fact that it had been given \$300 million in provincial support. That was followed in October by the collapse of Myriad Computer Corp. of Edmonton,

which had received \$10 million of Alberta's money. Stewart's counsel of barterism is one more setback in Alberta's drive to become a centre of advanced technology.

BARBARA WICKENS with JERRY KOPPEL in Calgary

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# Destroying Canada in order to save it

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

**B**rian Mulroney's long-expected pledge last week to establish a joint Senate-House of Commons committee that would try to fashion a new approach to amending Canada's Constitution may be too little too late. In the six months since the death of the Meech Lake accord, Quebec's position has hardened so dramatically that it brings to mind the famous explanation by a U.S. military officer, after the uncertain bombing of Ben Tre during the war in Vietnam: "It became necessary to destroy the town, in order to save it."

By spring, when the Mulroney-Caspey commission reports on what plans, if any, Quebec should occupy within the country's future, English Canada may find itself facing a referendum on sovereignty-association demands that it is not prepared to accept on even counter. The commission's hearings have so far failed to elicit any meaningful independent opinion. Typically, when Julian Gey, a pro-Canada Montreal lawyer, tries to plead the case for not breaking up the country, commissioner Louis Laberge, head of the Quebec Federation of Labor, dismissed his argument with the comment: "I think you're an asshole. You're from another planet."

More enlightening still is the approach being taken by the constitutional committee of the provincial Liberal party, which has concluded that the only way to bring about effective change in Canada's federal system is to proceed Quebec as independent country—and only then begin bargaining with Ottawa. The growing feeling among Quebec nationalists that Canada must be destroyed in order to be saved is a total misunderstanding of the English-Canadian mentality. Every intervention in the constitutional area will reject the Quebec scenario of bargaining with Ottawa only after independence has been achieved, with its implied threats and ultimatums, leaving the country split before any serious negotiations could get under way.

Exactly what Quebec's demands will be is not yet clear, but the person most influential in

*Even English Canada's moderates will reject the Quebec scenario of bargaining only after independence has been achieved*

formulating these will be Gérard Boudard, Quebec's minister of justice and intergovernmental affairs, who is Professor Robert Bédard's most likely successor and has current standing in the commission hearings. With the possible exception of Public Security Minister Claude Ryan, no Quebec politician boasts a deeper understanding of federalism, its risks and advantages, its prospects and pitfalls. Boudard, 46, who spent 12 years at various universities either studying or teaching public law, has written three textbooks on federalism and was one of Brian Mulroney's chief constitutional advisers, before returning home to run provincially as a Liberal.

Because he is neither a determined federalist nor a convinced separatist, Boudard's position in favor of sovereignty-association is anything he wants it to be, which at the moment means that while he firmly rejects the status quo and is intrigued by sovereignty, he subscribes to an awkward middle course—that Quebec can be a nation without becoming an independent state.

When I dropped into his Montreal office recently, the justice minister started our conversation with a lament for Meech Lake. "Our conditions were the most reasonable ever

offered by a Quebec government," Boudard maintains, "and except for the distinct society clause, they were extremely important for the other provinces as well. It was difficult enough for us to accept the fact that Francis Mulroney refused to honor the commitment of his predecessor, but when Clyde Wells refused to respect his own signature, that's extremely serious within a federal state where we are all supposed to trust one another. Still, it's over, and we have to start the game now, though it's quite clear that we'll eventually come out with something much more important than Meech."

Apart from that shattering of trust, Boudard says that Meech's worst legacy is leaving Canada as perhaps the only country in the world unable to amend its own constitution, even though such amendments are essential to updating the social contract. Like most French-Canadian, Boudard believes that having rejected the Meech Lake accord with its five relatively harmless conditions, English Canada will almost certainly not accept the more stringent demands that will emerge from the current round of commission hearings. That leads him to a position of categorically refusing to go into the next round of constitutional negotiations with the other provinces, because any decision made at such a meeting would require unanimous consent. "We're not in fundamentally a compromise," he says, "and unless a compromise there can always be movement. We have to find the best way we can share what we have in common with the rest of the country, yet have them respect our specificity. We can only mix independence and federation by creating a new structure. A confederation of regions would be extremely interesting."

Boudard wants to draft and have adopted a Quebec constitution that would give some to the province's distinct society, cultural and political framework. Recognizing its own character of rights, it would be put to a provincial referendum and irreversibly allow Quebec to approach Ottawa as a constitutional equal. The provincial constitution, he stresses, would not supersede the federal document, but any future agreement would ensure that the country's dignity is not weakened as a concept based on the historical notion that Confederation was a coming together of two sovereign peoples.

"When Pierre Trudelle and Jean Chrétien decided to be against Meech Lake, they killed the best of country we should have," Boudard charges. "I never understood that, because I saw Meech Lake as a natural extension of Trudeau's 1982 Constitution—not funding the unfinished. By helping to destroy Meech Lake, he missed the last chance that the country's destiny could be expressed in the coming Confederation."

About the only safe prediction for 1991 is that the confrontation between Quebec and the rest of the country will escalate to unprecedented levels of rhetoric and that neither side will get everything it wants. Perhaps the best solution would be for all of us to adopt neither slogan of the Vietnam War and follow Senator George Allen's memorable advice that the best way to end the conflict was "to declare victory and go home."

I'll be home for Chivas

## JINGLING PHONE BELLS

Canadian television-born actor Jan Rubie, who had a supporting role in the 1985 movie *1676*, says that he is pleased by all his recent honors. Last week, Rubie, 70, won a lifetime-achievement Gemini award. He also plays the grandfather on the new and critically acclaimed the television series *Alma*.



Rubie: Jan-profile Santa Claus

officially outlined the television series *Alma*. But all that praise beside his immediate challenge, Rubie will be Santa Claus again this year on a TV photo show running from Dec. 17 to 21, last year 800,000 children tried to call the show. But said the veteran actor "My philosophy is to keep my profile as low as possible. I'm just Santa."



Candice Carroll: Candice Carroll: Candice Carroll: Candice Carroll

## Canadian material girl

Pop singer Candice Carroll, described by some music critics in Canada's *Madison*, acknowledges that she owes a lot to her American side. "She has been a major influence on me with both her dance-oriented style and with image," said Carroll, 23, born Candice Penzance in Toronto. Now, as she and her band, the Backbeat, pursue success with their second album, *World Keeps On Turning*, Carroll has revealed another musical hero. Said the singer: "I'm also really inspired by Madonna. I want to be able to do what she does as a four-minute song."

## Devil's delight

Time and two sequels have passed since special-effects artist made 13-year-old Leslie Nielsen's head spin in the chilling 1975 movie *The Execution*. But after 23, he's not had many roles as an adult. Now, due to lack of roles in *Repossessed* in Entertainment, said that also stars Canadian-born Leslie Nielsen. This time, he's director's name is Ian Rogers, but Nancy, said Nielsen: "You're supposed to think of Nancy Reagan." She added: "It's the same thing as *The Execution*, real suspense. My heart came around again, I thought in my family, my best friend. It's a role film."



Blue: A cute spoof on an old film

## From bad to sinister

Although he received a Gemini award last week for his gripping performance as convicted murderer and former Saskatchewan MLA Collin Thatcher, Canadian actor Kenneth Welsh says that he "would like to leave Collin be-

hind." Indeed, Welsh went from that role in the highly rated 1989 CBC miniseries *Love and Hate* to a new and improved bad guy. Late last month, Welsh, 48, joined the cast of the critically acclaimed *ABC* series *Twins Peaks* as William Batty, the currently missing co-partner



Welsh: "more sophisticated"

of FBI special agent Dale Cooper. Although Welsh says that he "would get into serious trouble" if he designed future plots of the CBS-hungry series, he does say that Batty is "intellectually sinister, a master of manipulation, more sophisticated than Thatcher." Added Welsh: "I had always loved to play a character like this."

## Ottawa scores

The NHL awards franchises in Canada and Florida

The new owner of a National Hockey League franchise was juggling on the streets of West Park Beach, Fla., last week at the time when the critical decision was reached. For 18 months, Ottawa developer Bruce Forsythe, 28, had used fanfare and public appearances and backroom persuasion in his campaign to resurrect the Ottawa Senators franchise in the NHL.

With that, the NHL ended a year of speculation and playing over the question of where the league would expand from its current 21-team roster. The reports that their cities will have to wait in line for the opening of the 1992 season caused jubilation in the contingents from Ottawa and Tampa, Fla.—and bitter disappointment among the failed bidders, who included a consortium from Hamilton, the

San Jose, who will have to wait in line to wait, specifications. Forsythe has already assembled a parcel of land in an Ottawa suburb. A group headed by Forsythe has secured plans for a 32,500-seat, \$65-million stadium. But the bid is currently under agricultural use, and previous hearings will be held next year to determine whether the area can be built upon. If the franchise is granted, the Senators will not be ready until 1994.

Until then, the Senators will play home games in the Civic Centre, a 9,355-seat arena that is better known in the strong state of past political leadership. Forsythe says: "We will be a novelty in Tampa—except for Canadian supporters—the sport has a strong tradition in Ottawa, where it has been played since the 1880s. The Senators of the Eastern Canada Hockey Association played their first game in 1968 and in the same season became the first professional team to win the Stanley Cup. Led by Hall of Fame stars who included Sprague Cleghorn and Frank Nighbor, the team won five more Stanley Cups before the franchise moved to St. Louis in 1934."

Still, when Forsythe held a news conference in Ottawa last year to announce his quest for a sell, some of the bid attracted widespread skepticism because the population of the Ottawa-Hull, Que., area is only about 850,000. That appeared to offer a small market to a league seeking broader exposure. Still, Forsythe's lobbying was aggressive. He recruited former NHL defencemen Dave Purvis, who played junior hockey in Ottawa, and celebrated NHL coach Sweeney Schrager as ambassadors for his bid. As well, Forsythe enlisted Frank Fitzsimmons, 67, the only surviving member of the 1937 Senators team that won the Stanley Cup. He made public appearances in support of the bid, Forsythe says that he will retire. Fitzsimmons' number 8 sweater on the new club's opening night in 1992.

Last week, these franchises got off the ground. Ottawa bidders, whose squad will probably play in the NHL's Adams Division against Montreal, Quebec City, Buffalo, Boston and Hartford. Meanwhile, there was anger and frustration in Hamilton, where some sports observers said that the city's bid had been crushed by the Ottawa and Tampa bids. Buffalo, which both have NHL franchises ("The Toronto Buffalo area has been on our list and it's a damn shame," said Liberal MP Sheila Goss, who represents the riding of Hamilton East-Welland, with the NHL return on further expansion by 1994. Hamilton, too, may wait day to sell to the league's eight-team Canadian contract.

FRISCH WALLACE in Ottawa



Forsythe (left), Ziegler and Snider: bitter disappointment among the losers

Forsythe said that as the league's 21 governors met behind closed hotel-room doors to decide which of the eight competing U.S. and Canadian cities would be awarded new teams, he was waiting to see his services. After he was named to the role, he said that he was "in a position to see the strength in northern regions, where the sport has proven most popular. In the end, the league chose a mixture of both, and went with the bidders who guaranteed that they could meet the league's \$56-million entry fee without qualification. Said Toronto-based hockey analyst Don Cherry: "Ottawa and Tampa were smart. They had the dough."

By granting a franchise in Tampa, where the expansion process had provided a heated debate among NHL owners, with some insisting that the league seek out new hockey markets in southern American states in the hope of attracting lucrative television contracts. Others argued that the way should show up its strength in northern regions, where the sport has proven most popular. In the end, the league chose a mixture of both, and went with the bidders who guaranteed that they could meet the league's \$56-million entry fee without qualification. Said Toronto-based hockey analyst Don Cherry: "Ottawa and Tampa were smart. They had the dough."

By granting a franchise in Tampa, where the

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Gander crash site: charges that government officials were concealing the truth

## AVIATION

# Elusive truths

New charges surface over the Gander crash

For five years, Dr. Douglas Phillips, a Florida pathologist, sought answers to the mystery that haunts his life: what had caused the Dec. 12, 1985, crash of a chartered Air Canada jet 30 seconds after takeoff from Newfoundland's Gander airport. The crash killed all eight crew members and 248 American soldiers aboard, including Phillips' only son, Douglas Jr., a 29-year-old postgraduate. But last week, after following to two days of evidence and searching testimony before a congressional subcommittee investigating the tragedy, the worst aviation disaster to occur in Canadian soil said U.S. military history, Phillips charged that many of the U.S. officials were concealing the truth. "I knew some of the witnesses were lying," he said. "It's very distressing." Killed was Sir Benjamin, a retired Air Canada captain who was one of four members of the nine-man Canadian Aviation Safety Board (CASB) to disappear from the board's controversial report on the crash two years ago. "I feel just as strongly as I ever did that there's a cover-up."

Even Representative William Hughes, the New Jersey Democrat who chaired the House Judiciary subcommittee on crime hearings, which is carrying out the first official U.S. examination of the tragedy, reportedly expressed outrage and frustration at the testimony. As a parole of government witnesses displayed a marked lack of interest in details that

terrorist bombing tied to the Iran-contra affair might have led to the Air Canada crash, Hughes expressed his disbelief, turning their conduct "repulsive." "But he devoted his strongest criticism at the Canadian government. Five months after he requested data from the 1987 investigation of the crash in a June 19 letter, Canadian Ambassador Derek Sturgeon in Washington, Hughes still had not received a reply, said Hughes. "It's less co-operation than we should expect from a friend and neighbor. What is there for Canada to hide?"

That issue and others have dogged repeated examinations of the fiery wreckage crash of the charter flight carrying members of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division. They were returning home to Fort Campbell, Ky., after an month in the Soviet desert enforcing the 1978 Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt. According to declassified documents from the Iran-contra affair, which broke nearly a year after the Air Canada crash, Iranian officials at the time were more angry than usual with Phillips. The reason: just two weeks before the crash, the Iranians had complained that the same anti-tank missiles they had received as a secret \$21-million shipment were substandard and outmoded.

Less than a week before the disaster, Lt. Col. Oliver North, then directing the covert arms shipments to Iran, pleaded with his superiors not to drop the covert weapons deal. It is

declassified House memo, North wrote "We stand a good chance of... a renewed wave of Islamic Jihad terrorism."

But last week, Phillips and other witnesses charged investigators did not take that volatile political climate into account when, within hours after the crash, they began dismissing suggestions of a terrorist attack. Phillips called the Canadian investigation, which himself called on the aircraft's wings for the crash, "totally incompetent and inadequate." He also said that "if the Iran-contra scandal had been found out in 1985, rather than in 1986, it could have been timely politically embarrassing."

Instead of probing answers, but which's hearings raised a series of disturbing new questions. Among them: Why was a military outboard inspector denied access to the plane when it was being loaded in Cairo? Why did U.S. Army pathologists fail to test for traces of an explosion aboard the plane? And why did the FBI send a team of investigators to Gander, where they claim that the RCMP don't allow them access to the crash site? According to the subcommittee's report, the FBI investigators returned home after 48 hours, when RCMP officials assured them there was no evidence of an explosion. Said Hughes: "I'm just amazed. After two days, you just fiddled your tent and went home? The FBI should have been a little more aggressive."

In fact, within four hours of the crash, White House and Pentagon spokesmen said that the tragedy was caused by the bombing of the DC-8's wings, a theory the four most technically qualified members of the crash panel took issue with two years ago. After the reading public force, William E. Kelly, a former pilot of the Supreme Court of Canada, said in July, 1986, report that also documented icing as the cause of the crash. Last week, George Seidlin, who was the chief investigator for the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) at the Newfoundland crash site, agreed that ice could not have been a cause of the crash. But his former boss, Russell Scheldt, revealed that he was aware of his top investigator's opinion. Scheldt said that he continued to support the icing theory. Said Representative Lawrence Smith, a Florida Democrat: "I think you're all sick."

In fact, in an oral preliminary report released last week, the subcommittee charged that Seidlin had been "pushed aside" by his superiors during the Ottawa public hearings three years ago. The report went on to accuse the U.S. Board of being "grossly negligent." The subcommittee recommended renewed investigations next year into the cause of the crash that led to the short of the full congressional inquiry that Phillips and other families of the crash victims had demanded. As Phillips wrote the committee: "We, the families, that betrayed by our government. This work, in my opinion, is the Families Act. About 1985, the 50th anniversary of its first with a memorial service at Arlington Cemetery, outside Washington, they will be heavily aware of the wrong they believe has been committed."

MARCI McDONALD in Washington

## DEVELOPMENT

# Costly mistakes

A bankrupt aid agency collapses

Because they had not been paid for three weeks, most of the 110 head-office employees of the Ottawa-based World University Service of Canada (WUSC) reported had more than they could pay for a staff meeting last week. Then, Oliver Lator, the organization's acting executive director, told them that the priority was negotiation that provides educational and technical

needed to help effort through December. Auditors from the Toronto-based accounting firm of Ernst & Young Inc., acting as receivers on behalf of the bank, changed the locks at headquarters and stayed in a grimy, two-day financial review of WUSC assets. Albert Ford, until last week the director of finance and administration for WUSC, told Maclean's that WUSC's outstanding debts totaled \$4.3



Education program at the University of Pererawa: some projects may survive

million, including \$6 million in mortgages. According to officials of both WUSC and CIDA, the agency's problems were the combined result of financial mismanagement by WUSC itself and declining revenues from CIDA and other government sources. The officials said that use of the key factors for WUSC's financial crisis was a badly judged anti-excess award given last January. WUSC paid \$5.5 million to build a glassy new three-story headquarters on Bank Street in downtown Ottawa. But, as declining real estate market, the organization had been unable to sell its old building. As a result, Lator said that WUSC was making a total of \$18,000 in mortgage payments each month for the two buildings.

At the same time, WUSC was expanding while revenues from CIDA and other sources began to

collapse. According to WUSC field officer Gayle Turner, executive director William McNeil had aggressively expanded WUSC's program base during the past 14 years, undertaking new projects in a growing list of developing countries in the Caribbean, South America, Africa and Asia.

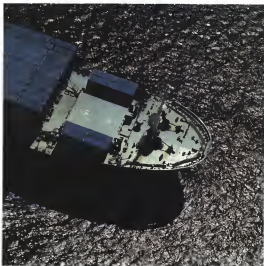
But during the same period, underpaid revenues from government contracts had fallen short of projections as a result of cutbacks in the funding for foreign aid in the last two federal budgets. Douglas Maclean, prime minister of CIDA, told Maclean's that CIDA refused to lend WUSC aid because it could not advance funds to a bankrupt organization. Said Lator: "When we heard about this situation, WUSC was already technically bankrupt. The bank had stopped honoring its cheques." WUSC officials said last week that McNeil had been on leave since late November.

The bankruptcy of WUSC, the largest Canadian non-governmental foreign aid organization (such bodies are often referred to as NGOs) ended the prospect of cancelled overseas programs and an accompanying blow to Canadian prestige overseas. As well as raising programs that bring overseas students to Canada, WUSC currently has 20 employees and only 400 volunteers and staffs who are paid by local country governments outside of Canada. The WUSC projects range from a water purification program in Peru to a program aimed at helping Ethiopian famine victims. Turner, who supervises the organization's operations in Southeast Asia from Jakarta, Indonesia, said that the cancellation of WUSC programs in Indonesia would be a serious blow to the Canadian presence in that country. The organization's main program in Indonesia is a \$17.2-million, five-year project to teach Indonesian university students to speak English so that they can continue their education in Canada. CIDA contributes \$5.2 million to the project. Turner told Maclean's that the collapse of WUSC would be a blow to Canada's standing in Indonesia, because "we have established ourselves as the Canadian agency for Indonesia to deal with."

Said federal officials he had not heard last week that WUSC might be saved. Mogens Lashley, the minister for external relations and international development, announced that CIDA would temporarily resume funding of some WUSC programs. At the same time, Lashley said that Ernst & Young would try to sell the organization to put WUSC back on a sound financial footing. It would not automatically clear how many WUSC employees would be kept on staff for the time being. Lashley said that CIDA would honor all obligations in the estimated \$650 foreign students who are currently in Canada under WUSC programs. With some overseas programs still facing cancellations, Turner and her WUSC counterparts from Zimbabwe and Washington said that they planned to fly to Ottawa at their own expense in an effort to coordinate a crisis and that WUSC deserves another chance.

JAMES DEACON with R. KAYE PLATTON in Ottawa

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## BOOKS

## Heart of darkness

Henry Morton Stanley  
was both heroic and cruel

## DAKE SAFARI

By John Herman  
(Random House, 401 pages, \$29.95)

Until less than 150 years ago, most of Africa was still a blank map. By the mid-19th century, few Europeans had penetrated its interior, with its vast jungles and deserts, often hostile tribes and devastating tropical diseases. African killed outsiders effortlessly, and had it not been for the monumental determination of explorers such as Henry Morton Stanley—the subject of *Dr. Saper's*, a legend, and David Livingstone, a pioneer of the continent's exploration, the continent would have remained a blank map. *Madagascar's* senior writer, John Berenson—much of the continent might not have been unknown. As Berenson makes clear, Stanley trampled in Africa because of qualities that made him unfit in his own culture. He was inquisitive, choleric, egotist who indulged his own men and sent hundreds of native Africans who stood in his way. But his personal obsession with the continent, and his yearning for Africa to be outside world, he played a role in the continent's rising—for better or worse—the advent of modern history in the Dark Continent.

Stanley's friends Brown called their adolescent leader Felix Mincer, "Smasher of Rocks"—a name that hid as much as it revealed. As with many cases of exaggerated masculinity, Stanley's boldness extended well beyond that of the adolescent. It was a trait that he carried from childhood. Born in 1941 to an unnamed Welsh housewife, 19-year-old Betty Parr, Stanley was originally christened John Rowlands, after his reported father. Inspired by his mother, he was named from the age of 5 to a workhorse, a cheery nickname for abandoned children and teenage adults. Driven by his teacher, the young Stanley began to develop the carcass of bullying toughness that would later prove so effective in Africa.

In 1850 the ex-workhouse boy, then 17, became a deckhand on a ship bound for the United States. In New Orleans he went to work for a kindly cotton broker, Henry Stanley, to whom he saw the loving father he had never had. Stanley later claimed that Henry Stanley adopted him and gave him his new name. But Sherman provides strong evidence that the adoption was more subtle: *thunder* than *fact*.

As a young man, Stanley worked mainly as a successful freelance journalist for various eastern American newspapers. But his big break

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arrived in 1889, when James Gordon Bennett, Jr., the publisher of the New York City Herald, sent him to Africa to find the celebrated Zulu poet but not have heard from him for several years. Against enormous odds, Stanley succeeded, greeting Livingstone with words that would become famous: "Dr. Livingstone, I presume!" Towards the end of his life, plagued by the beauty of the remote, Stanley rarely acknowledged, "I couldn't think what else to say."

Stanley spent most of the next two decades on expeditions that aroused steadily more of the mysterious interest. On one trip he became the first European to traverse the continent, beginning at the Indian Ocean and descending into the steaming wilderness of the Congo River on his way to the Atlantic. His adventures on the Congo won the title of "legend." At one point, several of his men became accused of an "act" surrounded by a hooting crowd. "Before them," Stanley later wrote, "was half a mile of hills and Kapels and great whorls and waves rising like hills... and before them were the cannibals of Manu-Mahwa."

When the cannibals attacked, Stanley revealed havoc among them with the expedition's repeating rifles. And he dealt with attempted assassins from his own suffering, disease-ridden ranks by dragging them to shore. His harsh tactics drew angry criticism in Europe. When two British officers of his 1887-1889 journey up the Congo landed the local natives (and participated in a cannibalistic rite), the incident is said to have inspired Joseph Conrad to write his great 1902 indictment of human evil, *Heart of Darkness*.

Yet, as the whole, the public learned Stanley for his long European-style exploration to Africa. Stanley tended to view himself in the same terms: light, and Bennett drew a superb job of painting out the various contradictory strands of his personality—the cruelty that belied his humanitarianism, the fear of women that belied his chivalry-like exterior, the sensitivity to criticism that kept him from rejecting his beliefs. Indeed, the only disappointment in David Seidler is Bennett's failure—surprising considering his long experience as a journalist in Africa—to evoke the tamed landscapes and climates through which Stanley travelled on his expeditions.

Before his death from pleurisy and complications, Seidler lived in 1904. Stanley spent his last years in England, teased by occasional remembrances of the levers that he had constructed in Africa. His two wives were his wife, Dorothy Tennant, whom he married in 1889, and their young adopted son, Gerald. David Seidler's final glimpse of Stanley shows the Souther of Rocks whooping, at least a little, in the presence of his small but much loved family. Had he met such warmth at the beginning of his life rather than at the end of it, the story of Henry Morton Stanley—and his African exploration—could well have been very different.

JOHN HENNINGSEN

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### Maclean's

THE WELL-INFORMED CHOICE

## Running on empty A sprinter revisits the steroids scandal

BURNING ISSUES

By Angela Innes on file to Morton O'Malley and Karen O'Reilly  
(Maclean's, 225 pages, \$24.95)

It's her quest to become one of Canada's top athletes, Angela Innes who devoted much of the 1980s to setting records. Now, the former sprinter, nicknamed "Cayenne Pepper" by her friends for her short temper and quick kick, has directed her energy at setting the record straight. For a sprinter, Innes trained with Don Johnson, who lost his gold medal at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, after officials found traces of steroids in his urine. Now, in *Running Fast*, Innes has written a frank and fiery account of Johnson's—and her own—self-destructive race to the heights of amateur sport.

Innes remained quiet in the first two weeks after Johnson's diagnosis at Seoul, but she writes, she decided to break her silence after Johnson claimed an national television that he had "never knowingly" taken banned drugs. The explosion, according to Innes, was that the Canadian team's coach, Charles Francis, had surreptitiously slipped his runners anabolic steroids. "I knew," says Innes, who contends that she and several of Team Canada's track-and-field athletes had been taking the drugs for years. Innes Innes: "I don't do the lying had to stop." At first, she spoke to reporters. Then, she achieved notoriety for her last testimony at the 1989 Doherty Inquiry into the use of drugs in amateur sport.

In *Running Fast*, Innes makes those earlier confessions look like mere peevish whine-ups for an almost casual look on Johnson and on several amateur sporting organizations. She describes Johnson as arrogant, lazy, self-indulgent, and cunning. Self-interest by his largest sponsor, Innes angrily speculates that he "consciously decided to protect himself as an athlete" in order to place the blame on others.

With equal ferocity, she takes aim at the regulatory Sport Medicine Council of Canada as a body determined to ignore the pervasiveness of steroids. And that could happen is just as likely on herself. Citing the "common pressure" she felt to win, she refuses to apologize for her own—or any athlete's—use of drugs. But neither does she pretend that her personal history will make her a hero. The result is a provocative but never jaw-breaking account by an athlete coming clean.

VICTOR DYER

# This morning, my ten year-old ate up 3 waffles, 6 sausages, and a couple of reptiles.

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May 28, 1954

Camp Port Antonio, Jamaica

Days: I am completely, totally, overwhelmed by this place, these people, especially the aura of mystery that descends the moment I ask about the legend of Tia Maria.

There's more to Grandfather's favorite liquor than just legendary taste, I'm convinced. And I intend to find out what it is.

(Andrews)

## Tia Maria

The recent discovery of a lost journal sheds new light on the 100-year-old legend of Tia Maria liquor. It reveals how, in the early 1950s, an adventurous young woman named Cynthia Andrews went on a journey in search of the legend of Tia Maria she'd heard her grandfather describe.

We share excerpts of her journal and letters with you here and invite you to taste the legendary Tia Maria. Smooth. Delicious. Flawless. Straight or over ice.



## BOOKS

# A sumptuous season

Beautiful books for holiday reading

For many people, the holiday season provides a few days of leisure, a rare chance to curl up with a good book and feast the eyes and mind. This year's selection of sumptuous gift books ranges from an escapist excursion into China's Huang Shan Mountains to a disturbing look at Canada's menacing wilderness areas. A sampling of the season's most beautiful and strange-

vertical view of Impressionism as an exclusively French phenomenon. She has compiled 18 essays, most of them written by American academics, that highlight the particular characteristics of the movement as it established itself in environments as varied as the scorched barrens of the Australian outback and the tropical bushland of Latin America.

The Canadian essay, by Art Gallery of On-

try more closely. He argues that while the Group of Seven artists generally lauded themselves to depicting "the solitary loneliness of the country... removed from the life of the individual," several other artists, including such lesser-known Canadian artists as Mountie's Isabel May, Winnipeg's Leslie LeMarche Fitzgerald and Hamilton's John Sloan Gordon, brought to their work a more generous impressionist sensibility. He describes it as "an affinity and warmth that is not usually associated with this country's art." In brief and elegant testimonials accompanying the 60 handsome reproductions, Doré documents the legacy of these artists.

Painter Paul Cézanne (1839-1906) was a contemporary of the French Impressionists and even acquired his work with theirs in at least two Parisian shows. But as American art historian John Rewald makes clear in his book, but modestly priced (\$28.95) Jack Cézanne (Prentice-Hall, the artist from northern



From *The Niagara Escarpment*: One photography and a well-researched text focusing on a unique geological formation

ing releases, by Marlene's editors and writers.

The business palette of Impressionist paintings makes the movement a perennial subject for coffee-table books. With 300 full-color prints and a nice international scope, *World Impressionism: The International Movement, 1890-1930* (Prentice-Hall, \$30) is among the best studies of the late-19th-century artistic movement. In keeping with the current trend of rethinking traditional concepts of art history, the editor, Washington art historian Norma Brodie, challenges the con-

crete curator Dennis Reid, examines how Impressionism found relatively fertile ground in Montreal but was less enthusiastically embraced in English Canada. Despite its marginal influence in Toronto, however, it was a crucial link in the development of the post-Impressionist style of the Toronto-based Group of Seven. Rewald's monographic study is as interesting in its commentary as it is in its illustrations.

In *Canadian Impressionism* (McClintock & Stewart, \$60), Toronto writer Paul David analyzes the movement's impact in this coun-

try. Cézanne was a maverick who rejected the Impressionists' concern with the fleeting effects of light and preferred instead to convey the structure of whatever he was painting. Because of that tendency, he was a leading proponent of the art of the 20th century, particularly the cubism of Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. Rewald, who has studied and written about Cézanne and his contemporaries for more than 50 years, makes the artist come alive in his comprehensively researched book, which includes reproductions of nearly 150 paintings.

more than two-thirds of them is color.

While most of Chavira's landscapes and self-portraits have a tenebrous beauty, Mexican painter Frida Kahlo presented a tortured self-image as doers of disturbing, often surreal self-portraits. Mexican artist Martha Zamora views a fresh perspective on the painter Frida Kahlo: *The Breath of Anguish* (Chronicle, \$39.95). Kahlo was born in 1907 to a poor family and died, as a teenager, what was rumored to be an accident that caused her chronic pain until her death in 1954. And although she had several lovers, including ex-lover and leader Leon Trotsky, Kahlo was continuously tormented by the philosopher of her husband, communist Diego Rivera. Her distress often found its way into her paintings.

But Zamora's research has led her to conclude that the artist, who often portrayed herself as wounded and bleeding, was also "a vital force . . . happy, clever and lovely, always ready for fun." Illustrating her biography with 120 of the artist's personal photographs and most important works, Zamora finally reveals the person that was Frida Kahlo.

In a career spanning six decades, West Coast painter Jack Shadbolt brought a "barbaric elegance"—as he himself has described it—to the Canadian art scene. Now, in *Jack Shadbolt* (Douglas & McIntyre, \$75), Vancouver writer Stuart Kremen has documented the life of his nation's prolific canvas—from his early salubrious of British Columbia village scenes through his anti-industrial analysis of the 1940s and 1950s, to his vibrantly colored, surreal visions of recent years. Working with the artist's portraits, postcards, clippings and photographs, Wilson, curator of the Fine Arts Gallery at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, has assembled a stimulating retrospective of the most important works of an artist who, as Wilson puts it, creates "a haunting magic, full of violence and beauty."

Lila Shadbolt, whose work has often been inspired by nature art and culture, following photographer Edward Curtis (1898-1952) was intrigued by Indian life. *Footprints from North American Indian Life* (McClintock & Stewart, \$52) is a collection of 58 fascinating photographs by the adventurer from rural Wisconsin. Between 1896 and 1907, Curtis lived with many different North American Indian tribes and documented his observations in 2,400 pictures. Later, his beautiful and widely sought-after images languished in obscurity and oblivion—until the 1970s, when some American libraries began to exhibit parts of his Curtis collection. Besides being valuable anthropological documents, Curtis's depictions of people in repose, at work or engaged in tribal ceremonies are works of great beauty.

History of a different sort as a central treatment in the new *Historical Atlas of Canada: Addressing the Twentieth Century* (University of Toronto, \$93). It takes advantage of the statistical information and maps that in such a visually up-to-date manner that the nation's intrinsic interest is brought to the fore. Using the same techniques that was so much international acclaim for the



Shadbolt's *Taurus* a selection of "sneaking work, full of violence and beauty"

first volume, the atlas features 90 double-page, six-color spreads. Each one uses maps, illustrations and other graphics, with blocks of explanatory text, to chart the growth of Canada from 1901 to 1981, by which point the country's population was predominantly urban.

What sets the book as a class of its own is the automatically diverse areas that it addresses. As well as illustrating economic growth and population changes, the maps and diagrams of racial, maternal reflect gender, class, ethnic



diversity and regional trends. One spread, on the social landscape of Montreal in 1964, includes a profile of the occupational groups living on that city's Mountain Street, the residential zone people paid as the elevation of the street increased and exposed its delicate tangle of their houses.

*Chronicle of Canada* (Random, \$19.95) charts the country's path differently. Part of the series that began with *Chronicle of the 20th Century* (1984), the 560-page book follows the same timeline-history format as its predecessor. Each page holds three or four tabloid-style photos, researched and vetted by historians, and written by journalists as if they were happening now. Unrepeated by date, the book ends in December, 1988, but some of the most interesting entries occur during the New World phase. "New ice age smolders much of Earth" is not a *National Enquirer* story, but a factual account of the glacier that occurred between 70,000 and 20,000 BC. Several millennia later, a March, 1958, item tells how a Sudbury, India living near what is now Quebec City would explore Jacques Cartier's crew from nearby accounts of powder pellets.

Other gift books focus on natural history and diversity in the natural world. They host the last-seller odds when they produced and market their first spectacular line in 1987, *The Ontario Field Portfolio* One year later, *The Northern Portfolio* followed, and a TV nature special evolved from that book. *The Niagara Escarpment: A Portfolio* (Stoddart, \$75) contains that tradition of the photography and well-researched text. Its authors point out six million people live

as best as in the Last Wilderness Images of the Canadian Wild (Oxy Press, \$52), the breathtaking photography is offset by a text weaving of nature's numerous destruction. Scientist David Suzuki writes in the preface, "Wilderness, as it was experienced by all human beings for 99 per cent of our species' existence, is an increasingly rare and precious experience." That he adds, "Canada's poorest a disproportionate share of remaining places that are unspoiled by humans."

The book's stunning 140 color photos were chosen by one of Canada's foremost nature photographers, Freeman Patterson, who also included some of his own work and wrote part of the thoughtful text. His selection covers the entire country and offers a wide array of subjects. The book includes close-ups of wild flowers, mushrooms and various insects, as well as landscapes depicting soft-focus, jagged, and dramatic landscapes of the rugged coast. The photographs are lovely, but *The Last Wilderness* is permeated with a sense of loss.

The disappearing world is also a dominant theme in *Robert Beaman: An Artist in Nature* (Penguin, \$65). The artist's establishment has long dismissed him as a mere illustrator, not an artist, but Beaman, 68, has been in the latest volume devoted to his work. He observes that even Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper* is Christian, not subject matter to him. His vivid, colorful paintings of life and beauty, captured from Manitoba to East Africa in three frames as if they were just about to face the page, certainly have made his work popular—and, at \$120.00 for a major canvas, expensive.

But his passion for concrete is demonstrated in his family's backwater to environmentalists. And his desire to capture nature's beauty became a habit of his observation. His theme in the new book is nothing less than the disappearing world, from the abandoned forest of his native Ontario, portrayed in *Phenomena* at dusk (1977), to the destruction of old-growth forests in his adopted British Columbia, depicted in *Caribou* (1988). Although his work celebrates nature, including the sense of the story and the transmitter, Beaman offers a sobering message about the loss of life's variety. "Like nature polluting, the world we live in has become increasingly bleak and devoid of interest."

Beaman's friends Pat and Rosemarie Krenge are a husband-wife team of photographers who spend time in the natural world. They host the last-seller odds when they produced and market their first spectacular line in 1987, *The Ontario Field Portfolio* One year later, *The Northern Portfolio* followed, and a TV nature special evolved from that book. *The Niagara Escarpment: A Portfolio* (Stoddart, \$75) contains that tradition of the photography and well-researched text. Its authors point out six million people live



Pat Krenge with daughter Rebekka. *Delta* spectacular

within a 90-minute drive of the Ontario ridge that stretches from the southern shore of Lake Ontario to the western tip of Manitoulin Island, yet only 30 per cent know what it is or why it is significant. The book's spectacular photographs and meticulously researched articles will no doubt offer interest in the geological formation, composed of shales, sandstones and limestone capped by dolomite. The 131 exquisite plates of white and grey cliffs, crags and distinctive, flower-petal formations are supplemented by 71 pages of historical photos.

A different kind of natural geological formation figures in *Capital of Nations* (Doubleday, \$75), which consists of French photographer Marc Riboud's photographs of central Canada's hauntingly beautiful. Among them mountain ranges. For hundreds of years, Canadian artists have flocked to the area, whose misty, jagged peaks and gnarled pine trees have become familiar images in the country's art. Riboud revisits here in 1985 to become fascinated by a postage stamp that depicted the range. But because of a letter brought on by Chai's Cultural Revolution during the 1960s, he was not able to go there until 1983. In *Capital of Nations*, Riboud captures the drama and mystery of the range in more than 100 shimmering photographs. In his text, Riboud says that during the Cultural Revolution, Communist leaders were allowed to cure the symptoms of party Chairman Mao. The range on one of the mountains. Later, notes Riboud, the slogans were raised, except for some "perils and dangers, which now are the only traces of Mao's thoughts left on the mountains."

For those who modify experience nature as their own backyard, *The Canadian Gardeners' Guide to Gardeners in Canada* (Random House, \$29.95) captures an appreciation for landscape design with practical advice for creating an unusual garden. Although the detail and richness of the more than 117 photographs by Tim Semmens have a broad

appeal, the text, by journalist Marlene Harris, is best suited to gardeners who are a little green on landscaping. Guiding the novice through the gardening process for flowers and shrubs, Harris, an avid gardener, offers advice for the ecologically minded and a detailed glossary of plant names. But the book's greatest strength is the emphasis that it gives to the wide diversity of designs available for Canadian gardens. Semmens' photographs capture a host of domestic landscapes, including gardens of the Prairies, across city sidewalks, terraces—and even the winter garden.

The art of urban accommodation is the focus of *Modern Design in the West* (Newman Museum of Art, 1980-1990) (Penguin-Rile, \$31). Another art book, it points out that the museum's collection of 20th-century design and architecture-related objects may well be "the most comprehensive in the Western Hemisphere." The book offers an extraordinary collage of objects, including in 1896 by Paris contractor Wirth that seems to reveal the water in wrought-iron screwwork and an early 20th-century oak table by Frank Lloyd Wright that echoes the horizontal orientation of the architect's Prairie House. Although it includes some design pieces, *Modern Design* concentrates on the eclectic. Semmens are filled with surprise, it is in the best tradition of books that bring hours of delight.

## Maclean's

### BEST-SELLER LIST

#### FICTION

- 1 *Witness and the Son of Shrike*, John Grisham (14)
- 2 *The Politics of Passion*, Joel (13)
- 3 *Home on a Difficult Day*, Michael (10)
- 4 *Passion*, Steve (12)
- 5 *The General in the Hat*, Stephen (11)
- 6 *Shogun*, James (10)
- 7 *The Wishing Moon*, Eric (11)
- 8 *Prayer of My Youth*, Warren (11)
- 9 *The Ruby Ring*, Elaine (11)
- 10 *Four Past Midnight*, King (10)

#### NONFICTION

- 1 *Trudeau and Our Times*, Clinton (14)
- 2 *The Great Depression*, Series (12)
- 3 *Power*, John (11)
- 4 *Unholy Union*, Taylor (11)
- 5 *Overly An Ambiguity*, Grady (11)
- 6 *Time*, Series (11)
- 7 *Inside Memory*, Fleming (11)
- 8 *A Life on the Edge*, Perry (11)
- 9 *An Artist in Motion*, Forster (11)
- 10 *God's Dominion*, Graham (11)

(1) Previews best book

Compiled by Bruce Robinson



## A blazing gun and aching bones

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

May you live, give the old Chinese came, in interesting times. There's another den prediction, passed down by the wire man. It is that you achieve the object of your dreams. It is, a laugh, too true. A broken-down tennis player, who has wasted all his life to go to a tennis match, is finally in a position to give the opportunity. Before he should have stood in bed. But like this should not be allowed.

A tennis match, it should be explained, involves 1,000 balls a day. There are ball machines. There are cannons that shoot balls. There are truck-like Chinese guns who deliver thousands of yellow balls, possibly like belly. From dawn to dusk, the polky yellow balls never cease. 1,000 a day coming across the curved net.

Katie Rackman at Notre Dame was never this address. New York's Lumberjacks with the Green Bay Packers. Even Pierre Trudeau wasn't this name. Maggie Thatcher designed this regime. The locale is La Jolla, 20 minutes or so north of Tijuana on the Mexican border. The John Gardner Records Division is designed to take fishing slides on Monday and on Friday to meet them as a shimmering lake of endless blue. Beaches, boardwalk, parked, but unable to walk stairs, capable of bending over, subject to small painful cries at the turning of the neck, at the attempt to reach for the peanuts.

One thousand balls a day. May you live in interesting times. Never, dear friends, achieve the object of your dreams. To travel is better than to arrive. A man's mouth should exceed his grasp, or what's a Heaven for.

Who would come to such a ballade? Who would submit to such a match, possibly by such punishment? There is an actor from New York, not someone one would consider an athlete, a lady with the luminous eyeballs of a full moon seen through light clouds. Why would she be here, as such an unlikely setting? Who knew? May we live in interesting times.

There are the spectators, the ones who sit out the punishment. The nonsensical guru at Ken Rosewall, the finest tennis player never to win Wimbledon, a lifetime personal hero to that



he is five-foot-seven, walking wet and has a backhand that has a half-a-lower component. Before they inverted lenses.

There is Sun, a Mexican who was born in El Paso, lived in Paris and speaks beautiful French and has a daughter whose uncle is under a data-crash-court attack. Sun is what is called an emotional construct, a pro who deals in Rimbaud-like concepts. The TV-producer tennis stadium, who has the regular grace of a water buffalo, goes to him as the voice Mork, as in Mork and Morky, as in John Williams. Sun was disappointed. There is Ralston, who was mentioned for the second coming of Don Aron. He could be the third member of the Marx Brothers, waiting—as for the two short tub—for an overhead straight line.

There is the role Mordred, the prototype California beachboy, who suddenly comes down with a severe attack of lower back pain. We tell him that all male lower back pain is the

result of stress. His has just been divorced, we say? No. Is he about to get married, we say? No. As a matter of fact, he says, he hasn't had sex for, uh, eight months. We advise his problem. There is Donna, who is quite obviously threatened for a minor role in *Twins Peaks*. Tina, tall and disgustingly healthy like the rest of them, who has perfect French from the days when her Pierre Corneille father took the family to Senegal.

One thousand tennis balls a day, you will discover, is like an eight-hour exam. Being—out in the sun on the day—hot—hot—hot—hot on the hot bed. Refrains that disappeared about the same time as the Austro-Hungarian empire did. Muscles that have not been used since Frank Sinatra had his own hair called into play, screaming for mercy every one of them.

In one's sleep, one does not count sheep. One counts 1,000 yellow tennis balls coming across the net, one by one. There is The Cage, a court surrounded on all four sides by high walls, a gun emplacement at one end and that opens forth an endless stream of yellow—buckled, forehead, valley, switch left, switch right, chase it down—downward to sea, palpitations by sundown.

It resembles the famed Gate at Singapore that faced only to the sea, allowing the Japanese to proceed down the Malayan Peninsula unopposed, coming in by the back door. The Famed Gate of La Jolla never closes, getting against the court with the left side, but sometimes impeded on board beach.

In such an embrace of pain, there is a mating of souls. Normally intelligent people who would be discussing the Pecos Golf and Elizabeth Taylor's court now over perfume talk about tennis and Achilles tendons. It is the most trivial conversation ever heard, mostly about bone and cartilage. Sensitive people—who also have sensitive physicians—are applied at the margins to the language. The TV producer and the Manhattan actress and the foreign diplomat seriously speak hours, better devoted to Sondheim, talking about muscle pain and the abilities of the massage lady who is kindly known as Sondheim and Dorey. It is needless, it is goofy.

The knee, dear friends, is never in action what you have so passionately wanted. We have all heard of the tragic stories attached to those golfers and track drivers who have won a position dollars in the betts and subsequently had their knees destroyed.

Warning: if you are a peacock of indomitable age, do not go to a tennis racket. Your body will regret it—and never forgive you.



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